



A Christmas Story

Author/oceanographer and Echo columnist Paul E. La Violette recalls a special time.

Community, Page 1B



Some Hancock North Central kids found out the big guy subscribes to the Echo.

Community, Page 1B

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Sunday
DEC. 23, 2001

NAACP offers scholarship

On Jan. 12, the Hancock County NAACP will give the Albert Fairconnette Scholarship Award at the Martin Luther King Banquet at Gulfside Assembly. All high school seniors are invited to submit three paragraphs on why they should receive the award. Contact Golden Fairconnette at 467-4126 or Carmen Montgomery at 467-6229.

New Year's Eve dance at A.L. 58

American Legion Post 58 will host a New Year's Eve dance with the Mississippi Pride Band, 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. \$10 per ticket. BYOB.

Clermont Harbor Sunday School

Enrollment is open at the Clermont Harbor United Methodist Church Sunday School 2002 program. Call 466-2702 or 467-3281.

WHAT'S INSIDE

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TIDES

DAY	HIGH	LOW
Fri. 12/21	3.01	2.01
Sat. 12/22	2.98	2.00
Sun. 12/23	2.98	2.00
Mon. 12/24	2.98	2.00
Tues. 12/25	2.98	2.00
Wed. 12/26	2.98	2.00
Thurs. 12/27	2.98	2.00
Fri. 12/28	2.98	2.00
Sat. 12/29	2.98	2.00
Sun. 12/30	2.98	2.00

SHOP with a COP



Stroll on the beach

Cool weather didn't stop some folks from enjoying a stroll on the beach on Friday afternoon to visit with a flock of seagulls. Even though the air was a little cool, beautiful blue skies prevailed.

Waveland P.D. making some holiday dreams come true

By Bennie Shallbetter
Staff Writer

This year the officers at the Waveland Police Department decided to do a little something extra to make Christmas special for a few area kids. Along with Kmart and store manager John Mitchell, they sponsored "Shop With A Cop" day on Saturday for ten lucky kids.

Kmart donated \$250 to the cause and police officers were able to raise another \$80 on Friday among themselves, giving each child a credit of \$31 to spend on either themselves, a

parent or a friend. The choice was up to each child, who ranged in ages from kindergarten to fourth grade.

Officers were able to locate children with the cooperation of Waveland Elementary School.

"It was kind of a last minute thing and we didn't have a lot of time to plan it," said organizer Sgt. Brent Anderson.

Three other members of the department, Chief Jimmy

Dreams--PAGE12A



Waveland Police Department and Kmart sponsored "Shop With A Cop" on Saturday. Each child had the privilege of a shopping spree with the officers. Pictured are Sgt. Trent Anderson, Chief Jimmy Varnell and Lt. Mike Prendergast.

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Ladner, Seymour clash over road project cost overruns

BY ED LEPOMA
Staff Writer

They're still friends, but supervisors Steve Seymour and Jeep Ladner locked horns Wednesday over a cost overrun on a major road project underway in Hancock County.

After working for almost six years to settle with property owners and obtain easements, the Board let a contract last October to overlay almost 11 miles of Lower Bay Road from U.S. Hwy. 90, through Lakeshore and Ansley, all the

way to the entrance of the Port Bienville Industrial Park.

The project is being financed 100 percent with state-aid funds from the Mississippi Department of Transportation set aside for Hancock County.

Warren Paving Inc., of Gulfport was awarded the contract after submitting a base bid of \$906,115, about \$61,000 below engineering estimates.

The road work is underway, but at Wednesday's recessed

CLASH--PAGE12A



Christmas dinner

The employees, family and friends at the Hancock County Courthouse celebrated Christmas in a big way Friday with a traditional turkey dinner and all the trimmings. The City of Bay St. Louis also hosted an afternoon Christmas open house Friday.

Million-dollar jail lawsuit dismissed

Prisoner had sought damages for lack of medical treatment

BY BENNIE SHALLBETTER
Staff Writer

An almost two-year-old suit brought against the Hancock County Sheriff Steve Garber, Jail Warden Gerald Necaise, Sgt. David Johnson and Diamondhead dentist Dr. Mark A. McFarland by an inmate, Miles Harvey, has finally been settled in U.S. District Federal Court. The judgment, handed down last week by Judge David Braulette dismisses all claims against all the defendants.

"I'm glad for the decision," said Garber. "But the thing I don't like is the taxpayers are still paying for this, and the county still has costs involved in this suit."

Attorney Ronnie Artigues said that unless Harvey refiles the suit in state court, the judgment is final.

The original suit was filed in U.S. District Court, South

LAWsuit--PAGE 2A

Hancock to get \$3.3M in Impact funding

BY ED LEPOMA
Staff Writer

Hancock County will get \$3.3 million in federal Coastal Impact funds, and the chance to view for another \$127 million that will be doled out by the state.

U.S. Rep. Gene Taylor of Bay St. Louis announced Friday the U.S. Department of Commerce has approved a total of \$127 million in Coastal Impact Assistance grants to six states, including Mississippi.

Alabama, Alaska, Florida, Louisiana and Texas were among other states singled out for assistance to offset the impact of oil and gas development and production in their respective states.

"I'm very pleased that Mississippi will receive a total \$24.3 million to improve and protect our coastal environment," Taylor said, in a prepared press release. "These

FUNDING--PAGE 2A

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Clean & Beautiful



The Hancock County Chamber of Commerce Beautification Committee selected during its November meeting CenturyTel in Waveland, and Diamondhead's POA Office as recipients of the Clean and Beautiful Awards. In photo at top, from right, are Kellie Smith and Danette Bourgeois of CenturyTel, and Betsy Ashman, beautification committee co-chair. In bottom photo are, from right, Betty Blakeney, Diamondhead Property Owners Association administrative secretary; Ellis C. Cuevas, beautification committee chairman; and Sybel Paul, POA receptionist. The chamber's beautification committee awards on a monthly basis a Clean and Beautiful Award to businesses and industries in the county that take pride in the appearances of their facilities and grounds.



Funding--big impact

Continued from Page 1A

funds will be used to restore habitat, control erosion, enhance coastal recreational facilities and assist with coastal environmental research."

The Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality will receive \$15.8 million and will manage the program. The three coastal counties can submit individual projects and compete for the MDEQ funds.

Harrison County will also receive a grant of \$3.3 million, and Jackson County, \$3.1 million.

Taylor said the money would be used to fund more than 80 projects. "Twenty-six percent will be spent on public works and infrastructure projects, 21 percent will go for habitat conservation and restoration projects and eight percent will be used for data collection and

research," Taylor said.

Hancock County's Smart Growth Director Sue Chamberlain and Bryon Griffith, deputy director of the Gulf of Mexico Program, were instrumental in helping the three coastal counties prioritize the list of projects to be financed with the federal funds.

Lawsuit--dismissed

Continued from Page 1A

District of Mississippi Branch, on June 20, 2000, when Harvey claimed he was given inadequate medical care while being held at the Hancock County Criminal Justice Facility on four counts of intent to sell controlled substances in March of that year.

Around March 1, Harvey complained of a toothache and was taken to Johnson, who removed two teeth. The suit claimed that Johnson prescribed pain pills for Harvey, but no antibiotics for infection. Later, Harvey claimed that he was in severe pain, could not

open his mouth and could not breath.

On March 4, Harvey was taken to Urgent Care where he was given an injection for pain and for infection. A doctor wrote a prescription for Harvey that was apparently never filled.

The lawsuit stated that Harvey's face continued to swell and that he pleaded for medical care throughout the night and was ignored. On March 6, Harvey said, he told the control officer he was dizzy and was having breathing problems. He said the officer

told him there was nothing he could do.

About two hours later he was taken to Hancock Medical Center Emergency Room where he underwent emergency surgery on four occasions for poisonous infection that built up as a result of neglect the suit said.

Necaise said that Harvey's medical bill amounted to about \$20,577.

Harvey was seeking \$1.5 million in compensatory damages and \$15 million in punitive damages.

And you're at the top of the list of people we'd like to thank this year!

It's always a pleasure seeing you.

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We're Checking It Twice...

Family of five escape burning home in Pearlington

BY ELLIS C. CUEVAS
Publisher Emeritus

A Pearlington family of five escaped uninjured from a house fire Friday evening and lost everything, West Hancock Volunteer Fire Rescue Chief Kim Jones reports.

The fire department received the call at 5:44 p.m., reporting the fire at the residence of Janelle Lewis, 5304 Highway 604 Pearlington.

Chief Lewis said, "Mrs. Lewis was in a back bedroom of the residence resting with her children when she smelled something burning. She went to the front of the house and opened the kids bedroom and it was all in flames."

The fire began in the bedroom and extended to the living room. The fire has been ruled accidental, according to Chief Jones, who said the house was gutted.

"The family spent the night with Mrs. Lewis' mother

crowded into her small home. The family has lost everything they owned, including clothing and Christmas presents. We at the fire department are trying to help the family anyway we can, and hope others can help too," Chief Lewis said.

The chief reported he was in the process of checking with agencies on Saturday morning.

The children are a girl age two, three boys, ages four, six and ten.

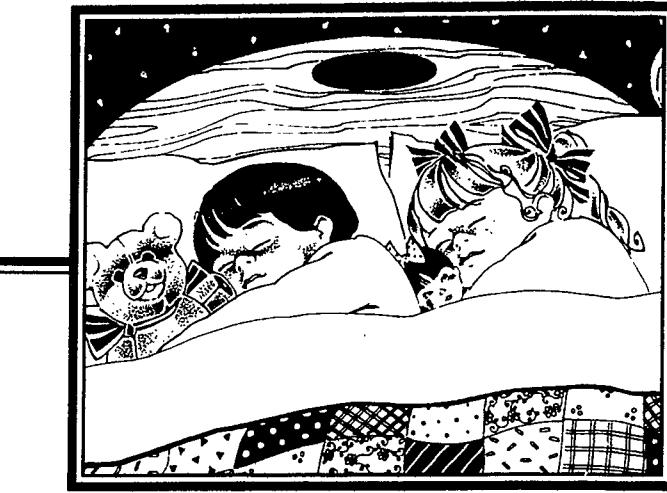
Anyone interested in helping may call the Fire Department at 228-533-7847, or Chief Jones at 228-533-9049.

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WCA Christmas dinner

The annual Waveland Civic Association Christmas dinner was recently held at the Hancock County Civic Center. Each year members and their families who attend the dinner support the Hancock County Food Pantry by bringing non-perishable food items. Members are, from left, Tyrone Fountain, Kelvin Schuytz, Louie Smolensky, Jepp Ladner, Buster Thornton, Jerry Melancon, Dave Garcia, Ken Poore, Anthony Serlo, Shorty Necaise Jr., Chuck Tippit, Jerry West, Raymond Cuevas, Felton Cuevas, Jim Odom, Ricky Vlato, David A. Garcia, Stephen Flandel, Mike Hardy, Jay Fountain, Steve Garber and Steve Landry.



Dear Soldier . . .

The Kindergarten classes at Hancock North Central Elementary wrote Christmas cards to the American soldiers during their study of the United States.

Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society honors volunteers

Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society (NMCRS), Gulfport recognized its volunteers for service in 2001 at their Holiday Awards Ceremony held at the Great Southern Club in Gulfport on Dec. 5.

Throughout the year, nearly 100 NMCRS volunteers donated over 9,000 hours while serving 6,300 customers, receiving \$29,000 proceeds from the Thrift Shop and providing \$470,000 in interest-free loans and grants to active duty and retired sailors and Marines and their families.

Captain Brian Kelm, Commanding Officer of Naval Construction Battalion Center, Gulfport and Commodore of the 20th Naval Construction Regiment, is the honorary chairman of the NMCRS Gulfport Advisory Board and extolled the extraordinary

accomplishment of the local volunteers.

Captain Kelm noted that the work society volunteers accomplish gives peace of mind to sailors and Marines when deployed.

Receiving awards for hourly service were:

100 hours - Joyce Brooke, Brandy Goebel, Margaret Hill, Patricia Jones, Gina McFarland and Deborah Espinoza.

300 hours - Betty Gibson

600 hours - Tiffany Crozier and Karen Williams

1,000 hours - Charlie Gibson

1,500 hours - Retha Longmire and

2,000 Hours - Lois Starling.

Superior Service Awards from the Board of Directors of the society in Washington D.C. were received by Margaret Brooks and Marie Davis for their five years of loyal service at the Thrift Shop sorting and pricing donations, and by Charles W. Gibson for his outstanding work as a caseworker

for two years, Budget for Baby Instructor for two years and chairman of volunteers for one year.

Society volunteers are active duty and retired service persons, their family members and civilians. Immediate openings exist for three caseworkers.

For information on volunteering for the NMCRS, please contact Chuck Ingraham at Suite 103, Fleet and Family Support Center at the Seabee Base, 228-871-2610 or e-mail ingraham@glfport.nmcrs.org.

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Holiday closings

The staff of The Sea Coast Echo wishes everyone a very Merry Christmas. The Echo will be closed for business on Monday, Dec. 24 and Tuesday, Dec. 25.

County offices will be closed on Monday, Dec. 24 and Tuesday, Dec. 25.

City of Waveland offices will be closed on Monday, Dec. 24 and Tuesday, Dec. 25.

Bay St. Louis city offices will be closed Monday, Dec. 24, Tuesday, Dec. 25 and Wednesday, Dec. 26.

There will be no postal deliveries on Christmas Day.

There will be no trash pick-up on Tuesday, Dec. 25. If Tuesday is your regular pick-up day, your trash will be picked up on Wednesday, Dec. 26. If Tuesday is one of your pick-up days, you will have only one trash pick-up next week.

Recycling will not be picked up on Tuesday, Dec. 25. If Tuesday is your regular day, your recycling will be picked up on Wednesday.



With warm wishes for a joyous Christmas to all the people we've had the pleasure to serve this year. Your friendship has meant a lot to us.

From the staff of

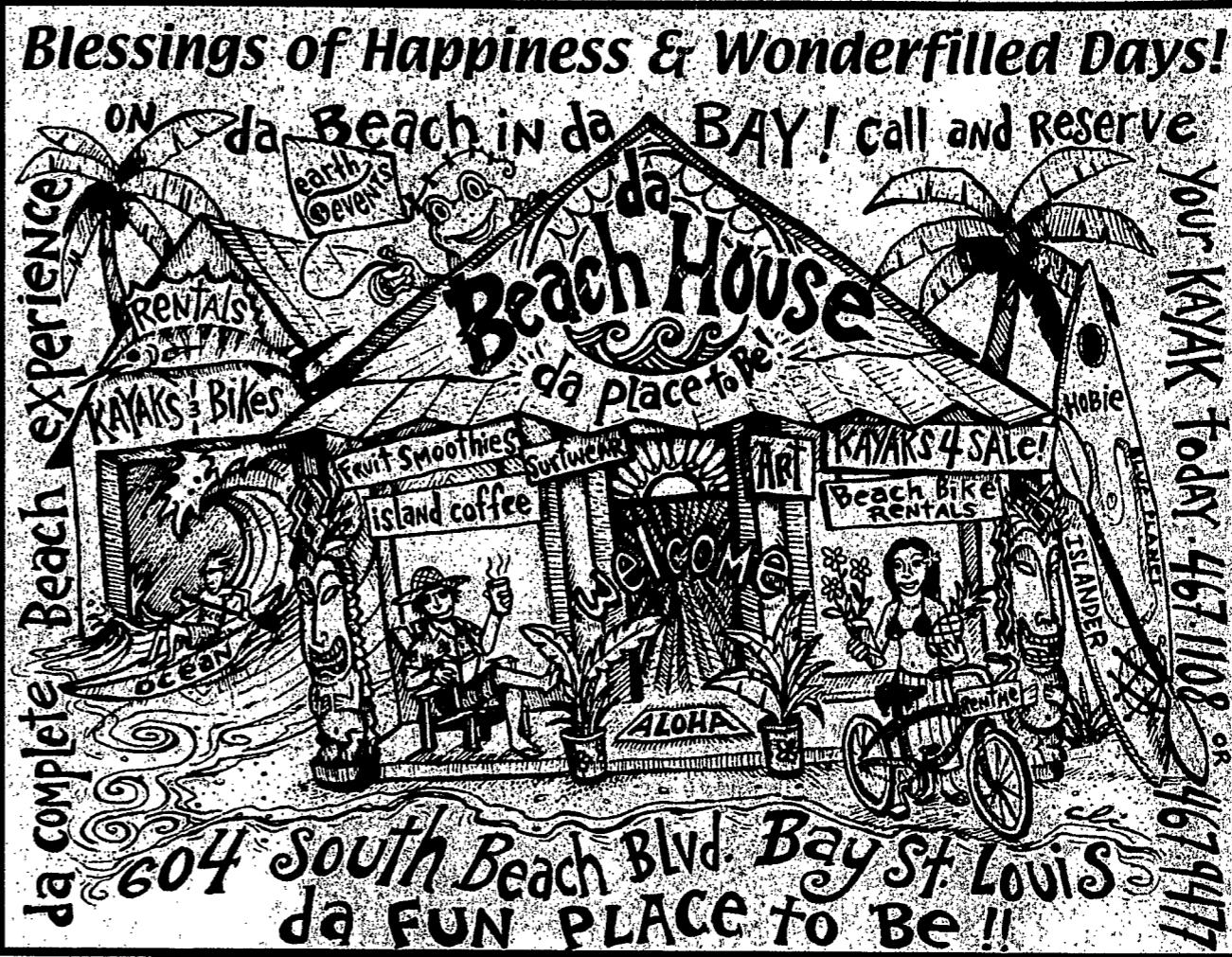
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OPINION

pg 4A



Cuevas' Quotes

by Ellis C. Cuevas
Publisher Emeritus

Remember our men & women in uniform this Christmas

When we celebrate Christmas this year we need to remember the men

and women in uniform, those who will not be at home, because they are in far-away places helping protect the freedoms we enjoy.

It is not really a good time to be away from family and friends during holidays, especially during Christmas time.

I can remember the three Christmases when I was in uniform and away from family and hometown friends.

It always seemed that every radio program we would tune to would be playing a holiday song about how great it is being home for the holidays.

Since I was in communications, we worked 24 hours a day, and that included all holidays. Of course we had time off, but it took 20-plus hours just to get home.

I am sure it is really hard on parents of small children when a loved one is away from home for Christmas serving our country.

The 9-11 terrorist attack on this country has caused so much grief to the families of the 3000-plus who were killed and will not be home for Christmas, and many of these heroes had small children.

The terrorist attack not only affected our nation but other nations as well.

The 9-11 event has made an impact on our nation in a way we now add people in uniform to all types of police and firefighters.

Police and firefighters for sure placed their lives on the line in New York, and this nation lost more of them in uniform than ever in its history on that tragic day.

We need to take the time to reflect on the lives of those killed, military, police, civilians and visitors from other nations and remember their families during this Christmas season.

It seems that the state of Mississippi is either on top or bottom of most rankings. If it is good we are on the bottom, if it is bad, we are on top.

A story we carried in Thursday's edition of The Echo tells how our state ranks among the worst concerning highways.

The National Safety Council Accidents Facts 2001 ranked Mississippi first in three categories for motor vehicle deaths.

The state had the greatest number of traffic deaths per million miles driven, per 10,000 vehicles registered and per 100,000 population.

The report indicates alcohol is a factor in about 39 percent of Mississippi motor vehicle accidents, while the national average is 38 percent.

The greatest problem is improper driving, which is blamed for about 60 percent of all accident fatalities and injuries.

Driving conditions in Mississippi are really good compared to many of the U.S. states when one considers weather conditions and terrain.

The article said the best way for travelers in the state to protect themselves on the state's roads is to allow plenty of time for driving to destinations, to wear seatbelts and to avoid distractions. The use of cell phones while driving is a major distraction, and we should avoid using them while driving.

Lots of folks will be on our highways and roadways during this holiday season, so we really need to use extreme caution while driving.

We also need to remember not to drink and drive.

Taylor deserves credit for Deer Island money

In the not-too-distant future, the public will be able to swim, boat, fish and enjoy the natural beauty of Deer Island, the tree-studded 450-acre spit of land that lies just a stone's throw off Biloxi's beachfront.

Deer Island is what Secretary of State Eric Clark calls the "crown jewel" of coastal preservation he has been pushing for several years.

Soon, with an injection of \$3.8 million carved out of a Congressional environmental appropriation by Mississippi Sen. Thad Cochran to match state money,

Clark will acquire Deer Island from private owners as a state recreational and scenic preserve.

Flashback almost 50 years ago: Then Deer Island was literally on the endangered species list, nearly consumed by raw commercialism as part of a

coastal "causeway" boondoggle.

A politically-savvy Gulf Coast huckster named John Lee Gainey in league with coastal county supervisors, in 1954 nearly sold the Legislature on building a 12-mile causeway out to Ship Island, the largest, most distant of the four barrier islands protecting Mississippi Sound.

Tied to the overall causeway scheme was a plan to also join Deer Island to Biloxi by a small causeway. All of it, as Gainey fantasized, would create an "island paradise" to snare a bigger tourist market.

To sell lawmakers, Gainey hauled the entire membership of the Legislature down to the Coast, put them and their wives (or friends) up in hotels, and wined and dined them over a weekend.

All the Legislature had to do

was issue \$25 million in bonds (a lot of money then) backed by the little-known "road protection" state gasoline tax funds Harrison, Hancock and Jackson Counties get.

Despite the heavy lobbying, the Legislature, fearing a toll bridge - barred by the state constitution - would eventually be needed to keep the causeway deal afloat, turned it down.

But you can well imagine that Gainey's "island paradise" would be lined with glitz neon-lighted nightclubs (booze, despite Prohibition, flowed openly along the coastal beachfront in those days), dinky souvenir shops and maybe, a hotel or two.

Although no one mentioned the possibility, if a few crap tables, roulette wheels and slots might appear in the causeway/island paradise, it would not come as a surprise. Illicit gaming had been a common sight on the coast back

Poetically, the advent of legalized dockside gaming in 1992 that has resulted in check-block casinos is why Clark says he and others are more keenly aware of the need to preserve coastal space in its natural state.

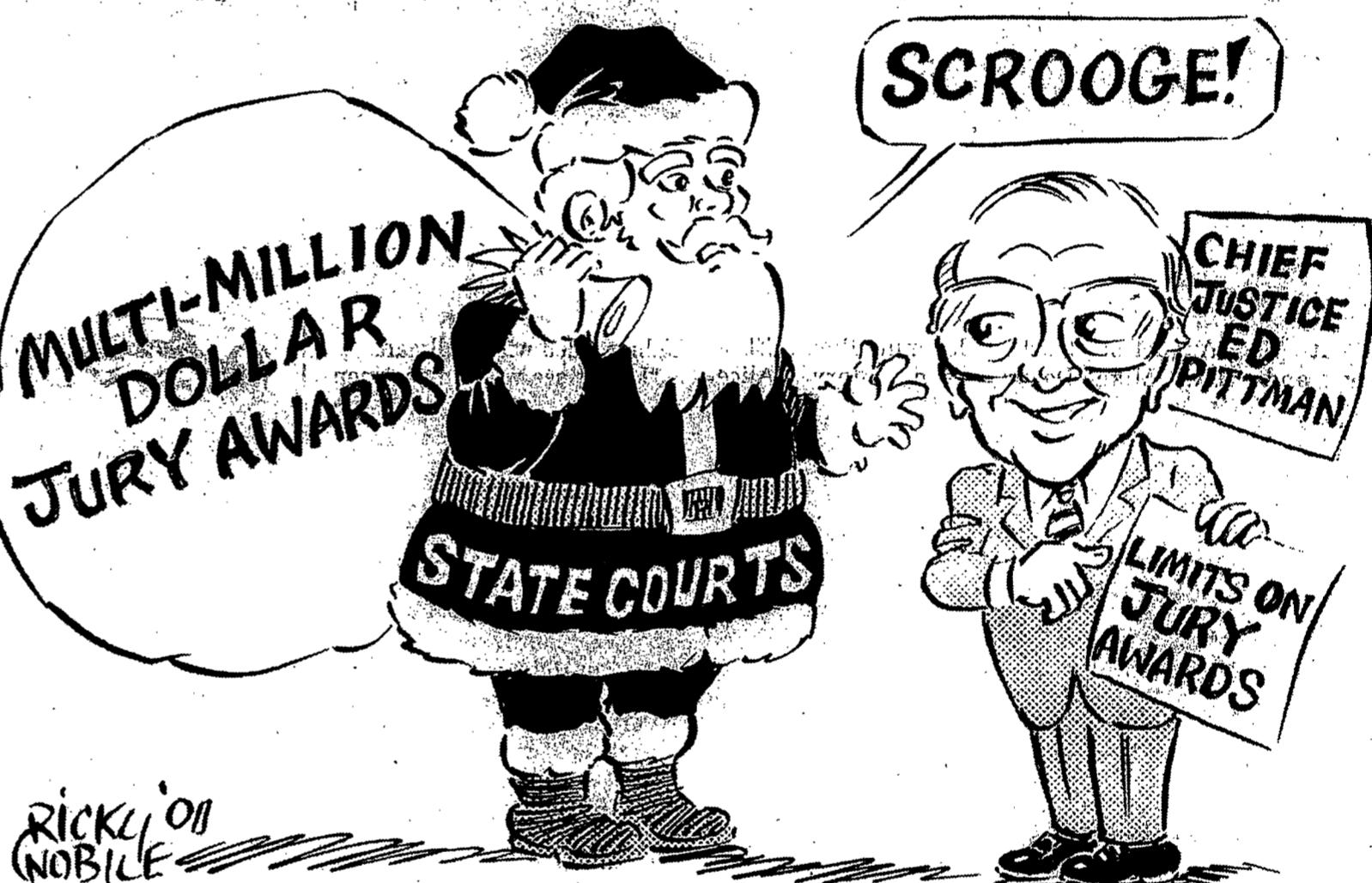
Hence, Deer Island will become part of the Coastal Preserves Program which Clark jointly manages with the Department of Marine Resource. The "crown jewel" as Clark puts it.

Fortunately, Ship Island, Horn Island and Petit Bois Island of the four barrier islands were acquired in the 1980s by the federal government for the National Gulf Islands Seashore and negotiations are ongoing to also acquire Cat Island.

More than 90 per cent of Deer Island has been owned since the

EYES--PAGE 5A

YES, MISSISSIPPI, THERE IS A SANTA CLAUS



'Just one more'

Dear editor:

Recently I went home for a visit; not to my parents' home or the city in Florida where I spent so many years, but to the Mississippi Gulf Coast, where I lived for a brief and magical time in the early 1960's and where I grew up.

It was a time of innocence and change. Daddy's job with Eastern Airlines took us from the Northeast to the Deep South, a strange and beautiful place, where I never thought a scrawny little Yankee like me would fit in.

Perhaps I never did. Perhaps I think I now know the real reason for the name. Throughout our lives and down into the years, all of us want just one more: Just one more dance, kiss, or ride on Daddy's shoulders; just one more try, drink, cookie, or chance to make it right; just one more touch, phone call, look, or letter; just one more time.

Somewhere in that part of my heart is still fourteen years old, I am a Southerner, and Mississippi will always be home. So I went back, just one more time.

The pecan trees were bare that weekend, and the sky was deep blue. Heading west along Highway 90 to Pass Christian and Bay St. Louis, I came upon my old house; a grand lady keeping watch over the gulf, and dressed in the same green and white as long ago.

I visited beautiful Trinity Church where I was confirmed,

and although destroyed by Camille in 1969, she has been rebuilt, and is still shaded, and elegant and evocative of another era. As I drove with the windows open, I breathed in the rarefied air of memory and thought of the boat Daddy bought in 1960 when we first arrived. He named it "Just One More."

Mama said it was because my grandmother Gongie, who loved to go crabbing in the mangroves of Florida, always asked my grandfather for "just one more crab, Skipper, just one more."

Perhaps I never did. Perhaps I think I now know the real reason for the name. Throughout our lives and down into the years, all of us want just one more: Just one more dance, kiss, or ride on Daddy's shoulders; just one more try, drink, cookie, or chance to make it right; just one more touch, phone call, look, or letter; just one more time.

I thought of these things as I approached the Bay St. Louis bridge stretching out in front of me, looking much the same as the pictures I carry in my mind, except the old toll booth is gone now.

The sun was tip-toeing across the water, sparkling, like music,

and Little Anthony and the Imperials were on the radio. I wanted to see my friends, those

people I think of as forever young and who meant so much to me. I wanted just one more day in Mississippi.

I moved away from that special place more than 35 years ago. My face in the mirror is now middle-aged only if I miraculously live to be one hundred and four, but I still see my childhood friends as smooth and fresh-faced, playful and full of the joy of discovery.

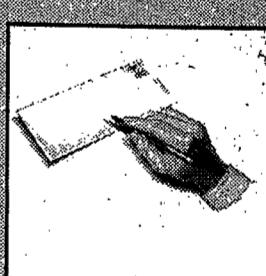
I was but a short paragraph in their lives, a casual friend who came and went, remembered only intermittently. But each of them is a detailed chapter in my life's book, remembered often and fondly.

They are Sarah Dale, who taught me to be a strong and fearless sailor, even in a storm; Kathleen, who was kind and

Letters to the Editor

Our letters policy

The Sea Coast Echo welcomes comments from its readers. Letters must be signed and include address or telephone number. Letters should be brief, preferably typewritten and double-spaced. Only one letter per writer per month. The editor reserves the right to edit or reject letters. Letters of thanks, expressions of appreciation and political endorsements are inappropriate.



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funny and always good and made me want to be better; Nancy, who was both pretty and athletic, and from whom I learned that those two attributes are not mutually exclusive; Sudie, who introduced me to New Orleanian boys; Chuck, David and Billy, who drove twelve hours to sing at my wedding; Jimmy, who always occupied a quiet corner of my heart; and of course, Ellen, who is, and always will be, an old and true friend to my sister and to me.

I didn't see any of them, except Ellen. They don't know me anymore, for time and distance and the excuses of adulthood have come between us.

But Ellen and I had lunch at

LETTERS--PAGE 5A

Eyes -- Taylor

1950s by the Sanders family of Jackson. It has been appraised at \$15 million.

While no sale price has yet been revealed, Clark said the state already has a six-month option to purchase the island.

The state already has more than \$5 million in hand for the project, counting the federal funds, \$2 million Clark's office has rounded up from land

swaps involving casinos located in the tidelands, plus \$1 million the Department of Marine Resources has from the Port of Gulfport expansion.

Clark will ask the Legislature to issue bonds for the balance, funded out of the tidelands leasing income (now \$5 million a year), his office receives.

While Cochran provided

much of the heavy lifting as a senior member of the Senate Appropriations Committee to recently nail down the \$3.8 million in the federal environmental land acquisition bill (remarkably, out of \$15.8 million for land acquisitions in the bill), Coast U.S. Rep. Gene Taylor provided a key assist.

Taylor, according to Clark, button-holed each house member on the appropriations con-

ference committee to keep the Deer Island money in the final version of the bill.

"Gene (with whom Clark formerly served in the Legislature) deserves lots of credit for us getting the money, and for strongly picking up on the project when I first sought his help," Clark added.



Retreat

The senior class of Our Lady Academy had evening prayer on the beach during their overnight retreat at the Gulfshore Baptist Assembly Nov. 15-16.

OLA seniors hold retreat in Pass Christian

The senior class of Our Lady Academy made an overnight spiritual retreat at the Gulfshore Baptist Assembly in Pass Christian Nov. 15-16.

The seniors' retreat director was Leo Trabhan, religion teacher at Resurrection High School in Pascagoula.

During the retreat, the 30 seniors prayed together, engaged in private reflection, worked in small groups, had large group discussions, and enjoyed each other's company and talents for 29 hours.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation was celebrated at the end of the first day. Rev. William Kelley, director of retreats at St. Augustine Seminary, and Rev. Mike Austin, associate pastor at St. Thomas Catholic Church in Long Beach, were available for confessions and conferrals.

Rev. Chris Munsch, associate pastor at Our Lady of the Gulf

A tradition continued when the seniors nailed papers listing their sins and failings to a large wooden cross which has been used for the previous eight senior retreats.

The papers were removed and burned during the evening prayer service on the beach. The nails were hammered into the cross, joining the nails of the rest of the graduates who used the cross.

OLA faculty members accompanying the seniors on retreat were the senior sponsors and teachers Jeannine Burch, Elise Deano, and Mary Alice Benvenuti, and Sister M. Elisa Bauman, OLA Student Ministry director. Sister Donella Hartman, OLA principal, visited during dinner and the evening activities.

Letters

Continued from Page 4A

Lil' Ray's in Waveland. We talked and laughed and ate shrimp po-boys. We found our teenaged selves in each other's eyes and I was home again, if only for a moment.

The giant oak trees still held the world together, and I tasted everything that was sweet and good in that world. Afterward, I became a tourist, and bought pecans and pralines for remembrance.

Then I drove away, up toward the Kiln, along the

Jourdan River and on to I-10 East, back to my world in which I try to be funny and good, and true and fearless, even in a storm.

This Christmas, I am thankful for Mississippi, for the people and the places I carry in that quiet corner of my heart for Just One More day, and for the pralines, that are sweet, and good.

Nancy Allen Schwaderer
Boca Raton, Florida

2 Supers against closing boat launch At Port Bienville

BY ED LEPOMA

At least two Hancock County supervisors don't want the public boat launch closed at the Port Bienville Industrial Park.

Port and Harbor Executive Director Hal Walters had completed his port and airport business Wednesday when Board President Rocky Pullman brought up the subject.

He said he was aware some Port and Harbor Commissioners talked about the possibility of closing the boat launch.

"I'm not really in favor of closing it," said Pullman.

District 1 Supervisor Jeep Ladner sided with Pullman.

"I don't see where fishermen would hurt anything going on at the Port," said Ladner. He said the launch was a popular stepping off spot for fishermen from Lakeshore and other parts of the county.

Both supervisors were under the impression that large numbers of fishermen were using the public launch. But, Walters told them he hardly sees anyone using the launch on week days, "and maybe, two or three on weekends."

Walters said, based on the terrorist attack on Sept. 11, industrial parks around the nation are on heightened alert. He said he anticipates stronger mandates coming down from the U.S. Coast Guard and other agencies having some authority over state ports and how they operate.

He said the Port Commission

is currently developing a security manual aimed at tightening overall security.

"At this time, there are no plans top close the launch. We do not want to close it unless it is absolutely necessary," said Walters.

Pullman asked Walters and his staff to "really study this before you act."

He asked Walters to keep supervisors briefed on any further developments that might affect the public's use of the boat launch.

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**Gifts for students**

Waveland central office secretaries and personnel give uniforms as a gift to selected students in the Bay St. Louis-Waveland Schools. Wrapping the packages were Dominica Favie, left; Kathy Zinc, Joy Dedeaux, Donna Torres, Cindy Gegenheimer, Lisa Hinson and Linda Gavane.

Obituaries**DOLPHUS LEE
ALPHONSE LIZANA
YEVON PFIFFNER**

DOLPHUS LEE
Dolphus William "Doc" Lee, 86, of Picayune, died Wednesday, Dec. 19, 2001, in Picayune.

Mr. Lee was a native of Hancock County and was a carpenter. He was a member of Catahoula Missionary Baptist Church.

He was preceded in death by a son, Gary Dolphus Lee.

Survivors include his wife, Geneva Seal Lee of Picayune; a daughter, Arleen Lee Skipper of Salem; a son, Jerry Lee of Baton Rouge; nine grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Visitation was Friday evening

at McDonald Funeral Home in Picayune. Services were conducted Saturday at Catahoula Missionary Baptist Church in Picayune.

ALPHONSE LIZANA
Alphonse Dennis Lizana, 75, of Long Beach, died Tuesday, Dec. 18, 2001, in Long Beach.

Mr. Lizana was a native of Cuevas and was a lifelong resident of the Coast. He was a retired equipment mechanic for Gulf Coast Prestress. He was a Catholic and served in the U.S. Army in the European Theatre during WW II.

He was preceded in death by a daughter, Janice Dubaz; three brothers, Edward Lizana, Harold M. Lizana and Ralph Lizana; a sister, Marguerite Papineau; and his father, Adolph F. Lizana.

Survivors include his mother,

Evelyn Necease Lizana of Ormond Beach, Fla.; a son, Dennis Lizana of Gulfport; six brothers, Herman A. Lizana of Collins, Howard J. Lizana and Hester Joseph Lizana, both of Pineville, Thomas L. Lizana of Huntsville, Ala., Elder A. Lizana of Woodbridge, Va., Gary F. Lizana of Denver; a sister, Agnes Hudson of Ormond Beach, Fla.; and four grandchildren.

Visitation was Friday evening at Riemann Funeral Home in Pass Christian. Graveside services were conducted Saturday in DeLisle Cemetery.

YEVON PFIFFNER
Yevon Pfiffner, 67, of Pass Christian, died Tuesday, Dec. 18, 2001, in Gulfport.

Mrs. Pfiffner was a native of Metairie. She was a retired registered nurse for Gentilly Nursing Home in New Orleans and was a Baptist.

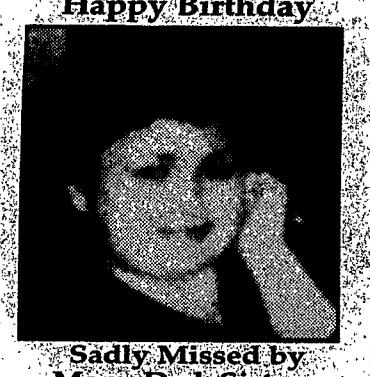
Survivors include sons Edward W. Miller of Pearl River, La. and Randall Lee Miller of California; a daughter, Pam Geisel of Bay St. Louis; a brother, Carl Ray Nichols of Metairie; eight grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

A memorial service will be conducted at a later date.

Picayune Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

**In Memoriam
In Loving Memory**

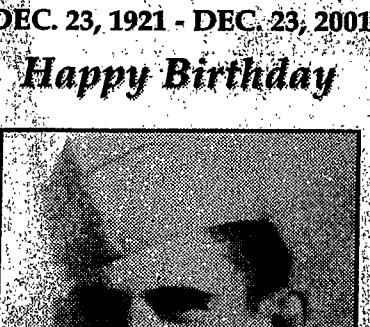
MYRTHEE NORTH
DEC. 24, 1961 - DEC. 24, 1983
Happy Birthday



Sadly Missed by
Mom, Dad, Sisters,
Brothers-in-Law & relatives

**In Memoriam
In Loving Memory**

WILLIARD L. GAVAGNIE
DEC. 23, 1921 - DEC. 23, 2001
Happy Birthday



You're just beyond the
"Sunset" where all God's
Children go. But you will
always live within our
hearts until beyond the
"Sunset" we go.

We Love You.
Margaret, Bobby & Family,
Donald & Family,
Mary Lou & Family.

In Memory of Your Birthday

In Loving Memory
of
**SETH AARON
OSTERHOLM**
Dec. 22, 1989 - April 15, 1998

In life we loved you dearly.
In death we love you still.
In our heart you hold a place no
one can ever fill.

We love and miss you so much,
Mom, Dad, Adam, Nannie & PaPa

**In Memoriam
In Loving Memory**

BERNARD A. MUTTER III
OCT. 9, 1957 - JULY 30, 2001

*Sadly missed this
Christmas day, as
every day.*

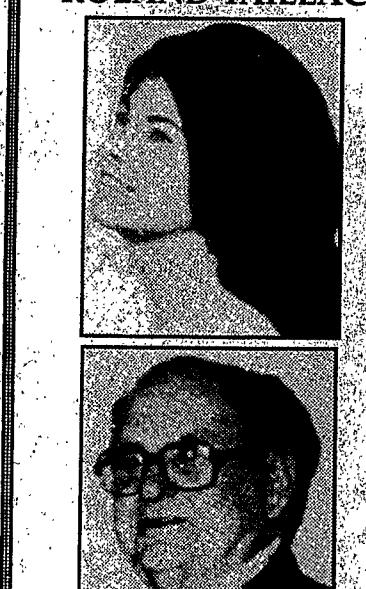


Sadly Missed by
Father, Mother, Daughter,
Sisters & Brothers

**In Memoriam
In Loving Memory**

**JUDITH TAILLAC
WATSON**
&

ROLAND TAILLAC



Christmas is here and you're both
gone. Your memories are still with
us and the love for you both stays
alive in our hearts. We miss and
love you both today and forever.

Sadly Missed by
Louise & Family

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Supers oppose any rate hikes**BY ED LEPOMA**

Hancock County supervisors are opposing a hike in water and sewer rates proposed by a private utility company serving portions of the county.

At Wednesday's recessed meeting, the Board of Supervisors were informed that Total Environmental Services, Inc., has filed application for rate increases with the state Public Service Commission.

Notice of TESI's intent has also been published in the Echo, but TESI officials told the Echo they did not yet know how much of an increase would be needed. Officials said they were preparing data to support their requests to raise monthly charges, but each system would be looked at "on a system-by-system basis."

TESI, based in Baton Rouge, La., took over some water and sewer systems in Mississippi and Louisiana last year after Johnson Utilities filed bankruptcy and paid hefty fines for operating in violation of environmental and health regulations.

Last April, the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality gave TESI one year to comply with orders to bring all its Mississippi systems into compliance.

Board President Rocky Pullman said he sees no progress in Pearlington and other areas served by TESI to upgrade the facilities it now operates, and he was opposed to any rate increase for any of its customers.

Pullman said he also intends to revive plans to wrest the water franchise. TESI has to serve Pearlington, since "there has never been one line put down." That attempt was put on the back burner when Johnson Utilities was going through bankruptcy proceedings.

TESI is under DEQ orders not to add more customers to its sewerage system in the Jourdan

Rivers Shores subdivision off state Hwy. 603. In Clermont Harbor, it is prohibited from adding any new water customers.

TESI also operates water or sewer systems in the White Cypress Community and the Oak Harbor area outside of Pearlington, and in Discovery Bay and Pass Christian Isles in Harrison County.

Supervisors unanimously passed a resolution opposing any proposed rate increases. Copies will be sent to TESI and to the Public Service Commission.

A preliminary hearing on the

application is scheduled Feb. 20 in Jackson, and an official with the PSC said it could take up to six months before any decision would be made on the rate hike requests.

Persons wishing to comment should write to: The Mississippi PSC at P.O. Box 1174, Jackson, MS 39215-1174.

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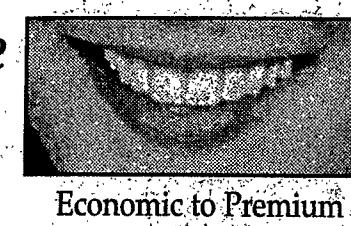
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**Making a difference**

Seven-year-old Ashley Calcote donated a truck load of toys to Hope Haven recently as her part of "Make A Difference Day." She also donated a \$75 Toys R Us gift certificate which she won at school. "It has always been my dream to help some kids that may not be able to have Christmas," she said. Shelter Director Terry Latham gave Ashley a lifetime membership to Hope Haven. (Echo Staff photo by Bennie Shallbetter)



Point Island Garden Club October Yard of the Month went to Leboria Sager, 415 Third Avenue.



The November Yard of the Month Award was earned by Margie Butterworth, 213 Sunset Drive.

Republican Women's Club meets

The next meeting of the Hancock County Republican Women's Club will be Thursday, Jan. 3 at 11 a.m. at the Diamondhead Community Center.

Plans for the year 2002 are on the agenda. Members' ideas are needed.

Report of the club's community service projects for the year 2001 includes:

- "In God We Trust" posters, under the direction of Annette Saucier. Members picked up, framed and delivered 202 posters for each school room in the Bay-Waveland area.

Funds for cost of framing were collected from citizens in the area and club members.

- A six-foot Christmas tree at the Bay St. Louis Library, decorated under the direction of Marilyn Adams. Members sewed, tea-dyed and hand-made most all ornaments.

There were 83 entries at the library, and the club took first place for the Patriotic category.

- At the club's recent Christmas luncheon, members provided turkeys, hams and enough staples to provide the two designated area families with dinners for a month or more.

Plans for community projects for the year 2002 will begin at the meeting Jan. 3.

Point Island Garden Club contest winners

The Point Island Garden Club sponsored a Christmas decorating contest for the area Henderson Point, Bayview and Pass Christian Isles.

The two parts of the contest were yard and mailbox. The judging was Dec. 14. Winners for the yard included:

First place, Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Bebler on Stennis Street; second, Mr. and Mrs. Benny French III on Louisiana Street; and third, Evelyn Winch on Magnolia Lane.

The winners for the mailbox included:

First place, Evelyn Winch on Magnolia Lane; second, Margie Butterworth on Sunset Drive; and third, Annette Rolfe on Havana Boulevard.

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PER HOUSEHOLD
PER MONTH
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EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2002.

The Hancock County Solid Waste Authority has a contract with Mississippi Pumping for residents of the county to dispose of Class I and II rubbish at no charge to the resident for residential disposal. Abuses to this privilege and budget constraints have forced a maximum haul-amount to be placed in effect beginning January 1, 2002 as stated above. All amounts exceeding the 10 cubic yard maximum per household per month will be charged to the person(s) dumping or delivering waste at a rate of \$4 per cubic yard.



BIRTHS**JOHNIE LYNN
CARVER**

Mr. and Mrs. John Carver, Jr. of Pearlington announce the birth of their second child, Johnie Lynn, Nov. 21, 2001 at 7:44 a.m. at Crosby Memorial Hospital in Picayune.

She weighed 4 pounds, 8 ounces.

Mrs. Carver is the former Evelyn Dawsey.

Maternal grandparents are Mary Dawsey of Pearlington and the late Russell Dawsey.

Paternal grandparents are the late John Carver, Sr. and the late Velma Carver.

Johnie Lynn is welcomed by her sister, Holly Lynn.

**CHRISTOPHER
GERRIT SMITH**

Gerritt and Kimberlee Smith of Bay St. Louis announce the birth of a son, Christopher Gerrit, Oct. 30, 2001 at NorthShore Regional Medical Center in Slidell.

Mrs. Smith is the former Kimberlee McKeough.

Maternal and paternal grandparents are deceased.

CHARLES ANDREW WEST
Charles P. and Carmen Chandler West of Waveland, announce the birth of a son, Charles Andrew, Oct. 15, 2001 at NorthShore Regional Medical Center in Slidell.

Maternal grandparents are Dianne Brooks and John Chandler, both of Memphis, Tenn.

Paternal grandparents are Charles E. West of Bay St. Louis and Connie West of Waveland.

**RACHEL ANN
CARPENTER**

Cheley Frank Carpenter Jr. and Marie Merritt Carpenter of Poplarville announce the birth of a daughter, Rachel Ann, Sept. 25, 2001 at NorthShore Regional Medical Center in Slidell.

Maternal grandparents are C. J. and Katherine Merritt of Bay St. Louis.

Paternal grandparents are Cheley and Edith Carpenter of Magnolia, Miss.

AKASHA RUTH SALAIS

Jason and Kendra Salais of Waveland announce the birth of their second child, Akasha Ruth, Nov. 21, 2001 at 3:59 p.m. at Hancock Medical Center in Bay St. Louis.

She weighed 5 pounds, 2 ounces.

Mrs. Salais is the former

Kendra Johnson.

Maternal grandparents are Ellen Sproles and Kenneth D. Johnson (deceased) of Gulfport.

Paternal grandparents are Robin Lowell and Hombert Salais, both of Texas.

Great-grandparents include Mr. and Mrs. William K. Sproles of Greenwood, Miss.

Akasha is welcomed by her sister, Lillith.

**COLE AIDEN
DESTEFANO**

Michael and Kristine DeStefano of Diamondhead announce the birth of their third child, Cole Aiden, Friday, Nov. 9, 2001 at 3:10 p.m. at Hancock Medical Center in Bay St. Louis.

He weighed 7 pounds.

Grandparents are William and Veronica Dilley of Alton, Ill., and Patrick and Evelyn DeStefano of Foley, Ala.

Great-grandmother is Gladys Cole of Charleston, S.C.

Cole is welcomed by siblings Corbin, 5, and Libbie, 3.

**SYDNIE ELIZABETH
LACOSTE**

Jimmy Allen and Jennifer Lacoste of Kiln announce the birth of a daughter, Sydnie Elizabeth, Nov. 5, 2001 at NorthShore Regional Medical Center in Slidell.

Maternal grandparents are Leonard and Diana Lacoste of Kiln.

Paternal grandparents are Avery and Yvonne Allen of Pass Christian.

Sydnie is welcomed by sisters Sarah Lacoste and Hillary and Chelsea Allen.

**JACKSON COLIN
BENIGNO**

Vito Benigno and Paula Estapa of Bay St. Louis announce the birth of their first child, Jackson Colin, Nov. 2, 2001 at 5:20 p.m. at Hancock Medical Center in Bay St. Louis.

He weighed 7 pounds, 10 ounces.

Maternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Don Ocio of Bay St. Louis and the late Glen Estapa.

Paternal grandfather is Robert Benigno of Bay St. Louis.

Great-grandparents include Charles and Elsie Benigno of Bay St. Louis and Yoshiko Estapa of Bay St. Louis and the late J. C. Estapa.

**BLAKE MICHAEL
CHRISTOFFER**

Michael and Angela Christoffer of Bay St. Louis announce the birth of their third child, Blake Michael, Oct. 30, 2001 at 8:08 a.m. at Hancock Medical Center in Bay St. Louis.

He weighed 9 pounds, 5 ounces.

Maternal grandparents are Lois and Tom Munster of LaPlace, La.

Paternal grandparents are Barbara Godchaux of LaPlace and Raymond Christoffer of Bay St. Louis.

Great-grandparents include Joyce Munster, Peggy Kelly and Lawrence Kelly.

Blake is welcomed by sisters Brittany and Delores.

**WILLIAM CHARLES
HUDSON**

David Hudson and Lori Necease of Lakeshore announce the birth of a son, William Charles, Nov. 27, 2001 at 12:23 p.m. at Hancock Medical Center in Bay St. Louis.

He weighed 7 pounds, 13 ounces.

Mrs. Necease is the former Lori Ponthieux.

Maternal grandparents are Janice and Roy A. Goodwin of D'Iberville and the late Charles Ponthieux.

Paternal grandparents are Shirley Hudson of Lakeshore and the late William Bill Hudson.

Great-grandparents include Marie Poche of Marrero and Richard Laurent of Weynesboro, Miss.

William Charles is welcomed by sisters Meagan and Lindsey and brother David Jr.

**MATTHEW CRAIG
MAY JR.**

Matthew Craig and Misty Marie May of Waveland announce the birth of their first child, Matthew Craig Jr., Dec. 3, 2001 at 4:14 a.m. at Hancock Medical Center in Bay St. Louis.

He weighed 4 pounds, 12 ounces.

Mrs. May is the former Misty Harter.

Paternal grandparents are deceased.

Maternal grandparents are Dennis and Anita Dickinson of Bay St. Louis.

Paternal grandmother is Eloise Gould of Bay St. Louis.

Great-grandparents include Francis Keith of Waveland and Juanita Wilson of Bay St. Louis.

**ISABELLA MOCO
NETTO**

Christian Netto and Angela Sharkey of Biloxi announce the birth of their first child, Isabella Moco, Oct. 23, 2001 at 10:32 a.m. at Heidrichs Home-Birth in Long Beach.

She weighed 7 pounds.

Maternal grandparents are Jeanne Glass of Coker, Ala. and Dennis Sharkey of Fayetteville, Ohio.

Paternal grandparents are SMC (Ret.) and Mrs. Christian Netto of Bay St. Louis.

Great-grandparents include Mr. and Mrs. William Richards of Coker and Dolores Sherman of Bay St. Louis.

**HERBERT GEORGE
NEWMAN IV**

Mr. and Mrs. Herbert George Newman III of Bay St. Louis announce the birth of their second child, Herbert George IV, Dec. 5, 2001 at Slidell Memorial Hospital.

Mrs. Newman is the former Pamela Lang.

Grandparents include Mr. and Mrs. Michael Lang of Bay St. Louis and Anna Newman of Biloxi and the late Herbert Newman Jr.

Herbert is welcomed by his sister, Emily, 5.

**COOPER HAYS
AND BRAILYN LEIGH
HART**

Philip Hays Hart and Auburn Leigh Hart of Waveland announce the birth of twins, Cooper Hays and Brailyn Leigh, Sept. 26, 2001 at NorthShore Regional Medical Center in Slidell.

Maternal grandmother is Barbra G. Hamilton of Mobile, Ala., and great-grandparents are Robert and Alice Hamilton of Gulfport.

Paternal grandparents are deceased.

**JACOB MICHAEL
TAYLOR**

Michael Taylor and Amanda Kelly of Gulfport announce the birth of their first child, Jacob Michael, Nov. 6, 2001 at 6:02 p.m. at Garden Park Medical Center in Bay St. Louis.

He weighed 7 pounds, 1 ounce.

Maternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Bo Smith of Greenville, S.C. and Mr. and Mrs. C. L. Mann of Newton, Miss.

Paternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Mark Taylor of Long Beach.

Great-grandparents include Mr. and Mrs. John Williams of Bradford, Tenn., Mr. and Mrs. Paul Smith of Martin, Tenn., Mr. and Mrs. Robert Vancourt of Pass Christian and Mr. and Mrs. A. D. Taylor and Mr. and Mrs. Boyce Andrews, all of Long Beach.



**HANDY
HOLIDAY
Greetings**

At this busy time of year, when everyone is sprucing up for Christmas, goodwill and gratitude would certainly come in handy, and we've got plenty to spread around!

To all those who've passed through our doors this year, we offer our best wishes and thanks. It's always a pleasure serving you.

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**Students of the Month**

St. Paul Catholic School announces Students of the Month, earned by exhibiting a continuous effort to be the best they can be. They include, first row from left, Jimmy Donlin, Kade Kovrach, Blaine Danielson, Anna McDowell, Aaron LaMarca, and Jackson Shelton; second row, Lexi Danielson, Lisi Danielson, Adrienne Hatter, Bo Brennan, Caleb Cheatwood, Kaitlin Campbell, and Rachel Church; back row, Ashleigh Mullins, Augustine Tran, Meyer Levy, Melody Campbell, and Cecilia Tran. Not pictured is Cici Lamb.

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The Sea Coast E

SPORTS

OLA wins 5-0 in soccer

OLA-Mercy Cross

Emily Meyers scored three goals as Our Lady Academy blanked Mercy Cross 5-0 Tuesday in high school soccer play. Kara Harshbarger and Lauren Goulet scored a goal each for the Crescents. Katherine Milner, Ashley Chrisman, Rachel Cranford and Harshbarger each had an assist. Jennifer Cootie earned the shutout in goal. OLA has posted a 10-2-2 record.

In the junior Varsity contest, OLA won 5-0. Jennifer Cootie had two goals and Jane Covington, Caroline Boelte and Rachel Wright had one each for the Crescents. Nikki Harshbarger, Bretta Walsh, Jordan Jones and Boelte each had an assist. Amanda Sramer had the shutout in goal. The team is 6-0-1 and will host Mercy Cross on January 9, 2002.

St. Stanislaus seeking coach

St. Stanislaus High School is accepting applications for the position of teacher/head football coach, according to Brother Ronald Hingle, SC, principal.

All inquiries should be directed to: Office of the Athletic Director, 304 South Beach Boulevard, Bay St. Louis, MS 39520 or by phone at 228-467-9057 ext. 224.

Applications will be accepted until Jan. 18.

Commercial shark season opens Jan. 1

The large coastal shark commercial fishing season will open at 12:01 a.m., Tuesday, Jan. 1 by order of the Mississippi Department of Marine Resources.

The opening of the season in Mississippi marine territorial waters coincides with the opening of the season in federal waters.

The Mississippi Department of Marine Resources is dedicated to enhancing, protecting and conserving marine interests of the state by managing all marine life, public trust wetlands, adjacent uplands and waterfront areas to provide for the optimal commercial, recreational, educational and economic uses of these resources consistent with environmental concerns and social changes.



All-Stars

Pearl River Community College was well-represented at the annual MACJC All-Star Classic played Dec. 1 at Northeast in Booneville. Pictured are Wildcat All-Stars, front from left, Davin Roberts, Jason Bennett, Seth Smith, Charlie Reeve, Aaron Dunklin and Antonae Ladner; in back, Coach Deke Adams, Coach Mike Volaryich, Otho Graves, Head Coach Scott Maxfield, John Feaster, Coach Buddy Stephens, Coach Clint Smith, Randy Robertson and Coach William Jones. PRCC's coaching staff coached the South Division squad to a hard-fought 16-14 victory. Feaster and Roberts have verbally committed to the University of Cincinnati Bearcats, while Graves has committed to the University of Southern Mississippi Golden Eagles. Wildcat wide receiver Durrell Weekly, who opted not to play in the All-Star game, has committed to the University of West Virginia Mountaineers.

Derelict vessel becomes artificial fishing reef

The Mississippi Department of Marine Resources (DMR) and the Mississippi Gulf Fishing Banks sank a 150-foot metal boat recently in Fish Haven 13, about 15 miles south of Petit Bois Island, creating an artificial fishing reef.

The derelict vessel was trans-

ported from Bayou Pottage in Pass Christian.

This is the second derelict vessel to be used as an artificial reef through the program. The first one, a 235-foot barge, was sunk in Fish Haven 2 Nov. 13.

Through a joint effort with the Mississippi Gulf Fishing Banks, the Derelict Vessel Removal Program was able to turn a navigational hazard into an artificial reef, enhancing recreational fishing along the Gulf Coast, said Irvin Jackson, DMR Derelict Vessel Removal Program manager.

The DMR's Derelict Vessel Removal Program paid for the cost of cleaning and preparing the vessel for removal. The Mississippi Gulf Fishing Banks provided for transporting the vessel and sinking it in its designated area. GulfStream Marine of Biloxi removed, cleaned, transported and sank the vessel.

The Derelict Vessel Removal Program is funded annually through the Tideland Trust Fund Program. The Tideland Trust Fund Program consists of funds derived from the lease rentals of tidelands and submerged lands.

Revenues are collected by the Office of Secretary of State, appropriated by the state legislature and administered by the

Commission on Marine Resources.

The Mississippi Department of Marine Resources is dedicated to enhancing, protecting and conserving marine interests of the State by managing all marine life, public trust wetlands, adjacent uplands and waterfront areas to provide for the optimal commercial, recreational, educational and economic uses of these resources consistent with environmental concerns and social changes. Visit DMR online at www.dmr.state.ms.us.

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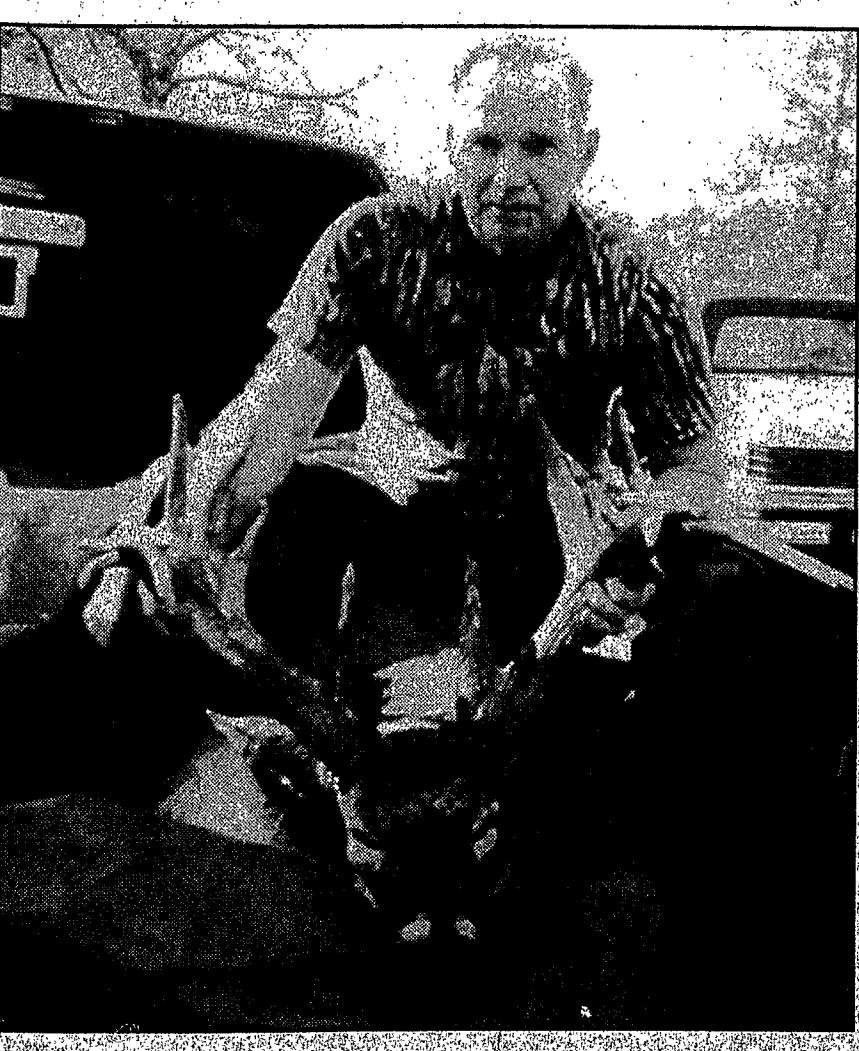
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Big kill
Timmy Campbell of Poplarville killed this 22-point whitetail buck at Mahana Wildlife Management Area in Vicksburg Dec. 5. The deer weight 272 pounds.

Area teams win in basketball

BY JOSEPH W. GEX II

Staff Writer

The holiday cheer is finally here, and it seems as though there will be a chill in the air when Christmas morning comes. Even though the holidays are upon us, the sporting season does not end. We have had many games in basketball and soccer come and go in recent weeks for the area teams. Here is a recap.

On December Saturday, December 15, the St. Stanislaus Rock-a-chaws defeated Forrest County Agricultural High School 55-49 and ran their record to 10-3. Cheick Sanankoua led the Rocks with 15 points.

Also on the 15th, the Rocks blanked Picayune 6-0 in high school soccer. Michael Kiyian

scored twice as the Rocks improved to 8-0. Peter Doty, Bryce Breland, Kyle Lewis, and Drew Cranford also scored in the contest.

On December 14th, the Pass Christian Pirates swept a pair of games from the East Central Hornets in high school basketball action. The Lady Pirates defeated East Central 55-47 and were led by Charleda Melancon's 16 points. Deanna Ladner added 15 points and Sabrina Dailey scored 12 points in the win. The Lady Pirates improved to 8-6 overall.

The Pass Christian boys routed the Hornets 98-60 to complete the sweep. Kelvin Woods scored 23 points, four steals, and four assists to lead the 11-2 Pirates to victory. Ruben Nichols added 18 points

while Richard Dedeaux and Greg Porter each scored 12 points in the win.

The Bay High girls defeated the Lady Bulldogs of Vancleave 89-30 behind Kendra Reed's double-double of 22 points and 12 rebounds. Carmen Labat added 13 points for the 8-5 Lady Tigers.

The Hancock boys team fell victim to the Hattiesburg Tigers 77-60. Cody Ladner paced the Hawks with 21 points.

In high school soccer action on Tuesday, December 18, the Bay High boys team was shutout by Biloxi 7-0.

The Bay High Tigers basketball teams swept a pair of games from the D'Iberville Warriors on Wednesday. Stephanie Reed sank six three-pointers and scored 24 points to lead the double-digit scorers.

lead the Lady Tigers to the 53-39 win. Kendra Reed added 15 points, 10 rebounds and five steals for Bay High in the win.

In the boys game, the Tigers defeated the Warriors 82-69. Renard Elzy scored 22 points to lead Bay High. Eric Lymuel scored 17 points while Zach Nichols added 14 points in the win.

The Pass Christian boys team tallied an 83-58 win over the Long Beach Bearcats on Wednesday. Kelvin Woods and Rueben Nichols each scored 16 points to lead five Pirate players in double digits. Greg Porter scored 14 points; Maurice Hardnett 11, and Chad Musgrove 10 points to round out the double-digit scorers.



Helping families

The Hancock High School Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA) adopted 86 adults and children from Hancock County in order to provide less fortunate families with a special Christmas. There was a truckload of gifts donated by nearly 175 students to The Salvation Army's Adopt An Angel program. Most donations were necessities such as shirts, pants, socks, shoes, and jackets, but bicycles and toys were also given. FCA Sponsor Michael R. Ladner noted, "Our students displayed a tremendous act of giving. They took their time to buy and wrap gifts for needy families in Hancock County. FCA was excited and enthusiastic about this project. These students truly are shining examples of the great young people in Hancock County and Hancock High School in particular."

Military Mention

AIRMAN LADNER

Air Force Airman 1st Class Drake A. Ladner was graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas.

During the six weeks of training, the airman studied the Air Force mission, organization, and customs and received special training in human relations.

In addition, airmen who complete basic training earn credits toward an associate degree through the Community College of the Air Force.

He is the son of David and Wendy Ladner of Perkinston and grandson of Sarah Shiyou of Kiln.

Ladner is a 2001 graduate of Hancock High School.

PFC HAMBY

Army National Guard Pfc. Krissa M. Hamby was graduated from basic military training at Fort Leonard Wood, Waynesville, Mo.

During training, the trainee received instruction in drill and ceremonies, weapons, map reading, tactics, military courtesy, military justice, physical fitness, first aid, and Army History and traditions.

She is the granddaughter of Helen Levatino of Abita Springs, La. and niece of Tonia Potter of Kiln.

Hamby is a 2000 graduate of Hancock High School.

PVT WILLIAMS

Army Pvt. Darien F. Williams was graduated from basic military training at Fort Leonard Wood, Waynesville, Mo.

During training, the trainee received instruction in drill and ceremonies, weapons, map reading, tactics, military courtesy, military justice, physical fitness, first aid, and Army History and traditions.

Williams is the son of Carolyn Williams of Bay St. Louis.

He is a 2001 graduate of Bay High School.

PFC WILKERSON

Army Pfc. Tabitha E. Wilkerson was graduated from the unit supply specialist advanced individual training course at Fort Lee, Petersburg, Va.

The student was trained to receive, inspect, segregate, store, inventory, issue, deliver and turn-in of organizational and installation supplies and equipment; maintain automated supply systems for accountability with use of unit computers; issue and receipt of small arms, and secure and control weapons and ammunition supplies.

Wilkerson is the daughter of Doris Wilkerson of Bay St. Louis.

The private is a 2000 graduate of Bay High School.

PRCC class officers

Pearl River Community College recently elected sophomore class officers for 2001-02. They include from left: Kyle Hubbard of Picayune, vice-president; Ashley Glaudi of Pearl River Central, representative; Allison Pigott of Picayune, representative; Sergiy Ivanenko of The Kilm, president; and Dr. Miller Hammill, SGA advisor.



Essay winners

Kilm Veterans of Foreign Wars Youth Essay winners include Richard Sullivan, left, second place; Callie Rodgers, first place; and Randal Lee, third place. President Vera Ramsey presented checks of \$100 for first place; \$75 for second; and \$50 for third. The Kilm VFW wishes to thank all seventh and eighth graders who participated. The essay theme was "Is Freedom Really Free?"

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TRUSTEE SPECIAL ELECTION

All interested candidates for the position of School Board Trustee from the added territory to the Bay St. Louis corporate limits must file with the Superintendent of Education of the Bay St. Louis-Waveland School District on or before Friday, January 18, 2002, in order to comply with the following regulations:

A candidate seeking the office of the school board trustee must file a petition with the Superintendent of Education of the Bay St. Louis-Waveland School District at least forty (40) days before the election. Such petition must contain the signatures of at least twenty-five (25) qualified electors who are bona fide residents of the school district territory to be represented and must also contain an affidavit by the candidate certifying that all signatures are the personal signatures of each person whose name appears on the petition and that each person is a qualified elector.

The candidate must also present an affidavit stating that he or she is a qualified elector and a bona fide resident of the school district territory to be represented in accordance with Miss. Code Ann. §37-7-211 (1972), as amended. Said Trustee election shall be held on March 2, 2002.

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The Sea Coast Echo

BUSINESS NEWS



Grand opening

Lightning Quick Signs, 208 Highway 90, Waveland, celebrated its grand opening with a ribbon cutting and co-hosting the Hancock County Chambers' Business After Hours last week. Many friends and family attended, including Jay Lagasse, Waveland Mayor Tommy Longo, Margaret Hadden, owner Gary Knoblock, Marie Knoblock, Terri Skinner, Catherine Dotson, Mike Gorbach, Linda Graffeo, Jennifer Jung and John Baxter. The business specializes in lighted signs and signs of all kinds. They are also an authorized 3M window tinter. (Staff photo by Cecilia Howe)



Ribbon cutting

Bay Carpet, Inc., 206 Highway 90, Waveland, celebrated its grand opening with a ribbon cutting and by co-hosting the Hancock County Chamber's Business After Hours last week. In attendance were Margaret Hadden, Jay Lagasse, Waveland Mayor Tommy Longo, Jay Cuevas, Dave Zeitfuss, Donna Guthrie, Clyde Richardson, Clare Jung, owner Chuck Jung, Jennifer Jung, Mike Gorbach, Linda Graffeo, John Baxter and many other friends and family. The business specializes in carpet, vinyl, ceramic, wood floors, window coverings and carpet cleaning. (Staff photo by Cecilia Howe)

BBB: 'Easy loans' can ruin your holidays

Better Business Bureaus throughout the United States and Canada have issued an international alert recently to warn consumers throughout North America not to succumb to the lure of the "easy loan" from questionable brokers.

Calls to Better Business Bureaus have surged in recent weeks as U.S. residents report having applied for loans from so-called loan "brokers" based in Canada, mainly the Toronto area.

These types of sales pitches typically accelerate during uncertain economic times or periods of high unemployment.

Mississippi consumers are warned that, although the BBB Mississippi has received only one inquiry in recent weeks about such scams, the potential danger to Mississippi consumers is high.

Complainants to the Better Business Bureau state that they responded to enticing newspaper and web site advertisements promising easy credit and easy loans.

After calling a toll free number, the victims heard a friendly voice that requested personal information, promised to send an application form, "confirmed" the loan approval, and then requested a fee for insurance purposes.

In each instance, the victim provided considerable personal

and financial information (bank account number, credit card number and/or social security number) and a fee of between \$500 and \$3,000.

On one recent day (Friday, Dec. 7), the Canadian Council office received calls from victims reporting losses totaling \$10,000. In the first hour the office was open, calls came from victims in Killen, Ala. (reported a \$2,000 loss) and Detroit, Mich. (\$650).

Consistently, the victims express regret that they did not call the Better Business Bureau first before sending the advance fee money. None of the victims had received the loan as promised.

Consumers who are in need of extra cash this holiday season or at any time, are advised to carefully investigate with the Better Business Bureau all offers of easy credit or easy loans.

As a rule, BBB experience indicates that the following are signs of advance fee loan fraud:

Pressure to act immediately. Advance fee loan schemers will try to get you to send money or give out personal information (credit card numbers, bank account numbers, social security numbers) before you receive any loan paperwork.

According to the Telemarketing Sales Rule, if someone guarantees or suggests

that there is a strong chance they can get or arrange a loan or other form of credit for you, it's against the law to ask you to pay - or accept payment - for their service until you get your loan or credit.

Insist on receiving the necessary paperwork before deciding whether to apply for credit.

If the loan broker hesitates to tell you their physical location, be aware that is a common ploy to avoid law enforcement detection.

Refuse to do business with the broker until you have his or her physical address or location and can check with the BBB.

Many of these schemes are merely telephone sales operations, so no connection will exist to an established financial institution. Ask which lenders the "loan broker" deals with, and ask for the physical address of the lender.

Then contact the Better Business Bureau in that city to request information on the lender.

For more information, or to check out a company, call the Better Business Bureau of Mississippi at 1-800-987-8294 (in Mississippi), or log on to the BBB Mississippi website at www.bbbsmississippi.org.

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Workshop planned for nonprofits

Learn the steps required to become a tax-exempt nonprofit.

Information on developing your board of directors, advocacy laws, financial management, completing the paperwork to file with the state and federal government and more will be discussed.

The Mississippi Center for Nonprofits will sponsor the one-day workshop Jan. 9 at the Mississippi Center for Nonprofits Conference Room in Jackson.

Cost is \$75 for the full-day workshop. Deadline to register is Jan. 7. Price includes breaks, workshop materials and instruction. Bring along any questions you may have about how to get your nonprofit started.

Mission is to strengthen the capacity of nonprofits to provide better services to their own clients, through networking, cost-saving opportunities, training and technical assistance, and advocacy work.

Contact the Mississippi Center for Nonprofits at 601-968-0061 or by e-mail at mcn@msnonprofits.org.

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Submitted by Craig Foster, Edward Jones Co.



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**Patriotism**

In late November, fifth grade students at Hancock North Central Elementary presented a program entitled "America" to students, faculty, and family. The program began with the playing of America the Beautiful and participation in The Pledge of Allegiance. Students in Pilgrim and Indian costumes conducted a brief reenactment of the first Thanksgiving, and a student clothed as the Statue of Liberty explained her role in the United States. Other student read excerpts from the Declaration of Independence, and the National Anthem was played. The program ended with students dressed in American flag T-shirts singing God Bless the USA.

**Bay Catholic attends ACE**

Students from Bay Catholic Elementary recently participated in the 11th annual Academic Competition for Excellence (ACE) at St. Stanislaus. Team sponsor was Marie Crosby. Principal of the school is Deanna Castaneda. Team members included, front from left, Lauren Seal, Hillary Goodfellow, Leah Seal, Jared Mortimer, Drew Berthold and Hunter Treutel; back row, Max Webster, Amelia Simpson, Paul Hotard, Guy Wood, Elizabeth Fucich and Samantha McLeod. BCE students Guy Wood won first place in English, and Hillary Goodfellow second place in social studies. St. Stanislaus established the Academic Competition for Excellence in 1990 to honor the finest young minds in southern Mississippi. More than 500 students representing 56 schools from Harrison, Hancock, Jackson, Pearl River and Lamar counties participated this year.

Dreams--shopping

Continued from Page 1A

Varnell, Lt. Mike Prendergast, and Sgt. Trent Boyd, volunteered their time to help Anderson with his effort. The officers met early Saturday morning to make sure that each child had a ride to the store and organize the kids for their shopping spree.

Like kids everywhere, the group was excited about Christmas and eager to get underway. Most headed straight for the toy department though two little girls seemed mesmerized by pretty hair ornaments.

"I just think it's a good cause for our city at such a special time of the year," said Prendergast.

"I think it's a wonderful thing that between the department and Kmart that we can help some less fortunate kids and make a difference," said Varnell.

"I'm just interested in helping the kids out," said Boyd. "I have two of them myself and I know how they look forward to Christmas. If I can help in any way it just makes me feel good."

"I feel it's good for us to be able to work with the children and give something back to the community and offer support in this time of need," said Anderson. "So many children

these days think that the police are the bad guys and doing things like this helps to teach them that we are really the good guys."

Half an hour into the shop-

ping spree, none had actually decided on any gifts.

"This looks like it's going to be a long day," said Prendergast.

He said Seal put the project out to bid using 1996 calculations, but he thought the specifications should have been updated to include present road conditions.

Seymour pointed out supervisors and the county engineer are required each year to ride every road in the county to inspect them.

Seymour wanted to call Seal to personally get his side of the story, and wanted to delay the change order in the contract until the Board meets again, Jan. 7.

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Clash--Road projects

Continued from Page 1A

meeting of the Board of Supervisors, Seymour seemed surprised to learn the contractor ran into some unexpected problems, and additional materials could boost the total project cost by \$74,000.

Larry Seal, the former county engineer who is still overseeing the Lower Bay Road project, explained the reasons in a letter he sent to Ladner Dec. 18.

"Field data was obtained during 1996, and asphalt quantities were calculated based on this data. Since, 1996, substantial surface distortion has occurred," Seal wrote.

He said a recalculation based on present road conditions show the road will require a maximum of 1,500 tons of preliminary leveling in order to obtain a first-class surface.

"The additional asphalt, coupled with changing the subsurface drainage near Lakeshore School from 24-inch to 36-inch culverts will necessitate increasing the project fund by \$74,000," Seal estimated.

He explained the contract let to Warren Paving included \$45,000 "for contingencies and testing," so the increase in the project cost would actually be \$29,000.

"I recommend the additional quantities due to the importance of this road," said Seal.

"It sounds to me like somebody dropped the ball," said Seymour.

He said Seal put the project out to bid using 1996 calculations, but he thought the specifications should have been updated to include present road conditions.

Seymour pointed out supervisors and the county engineer are required each year to ride every road in the county to inspect them.

Seymour wanted to call Seal to personally get his side of the story, and wanted to delay the change order in the contract until the Board meets again, Jan. 7.

But, Ladner argued the work crews were in the vicinity of Lakeshore and Lower Bay

Road, and should not be delayed. He said the extra cost would make Lower Bay Road a first-class road.

"They're ready to blacktop," said Ladner. "We can't wait until Jan. 7."

Seymour said he wanted a first-class road, but he pointed out the problem the county had with the contractor who repaved Rocky-Hill Dedeaux Road.

"That cost us an extra \$60,000 because somebody didn't do it right, but nobody accepted the blame," said Seymour. "It's easy for these guys (engineers) to say, 'Hey, I made a mistake.' We need to hold their feet to the fire," he said.

Ladner was ready to put his motion to a vote.

"If you want a half-ass road, don't do it," he told Seymour.

Board President Rocky Pullman tried to pacify the sparring pair, and managed to get Seal on the phone at his office in Picayune. Seal told Pullman he was tied up in Picayune and couldn't get down to the Board meeting, and his reasons for requesting the change order were in the letter sent to Ladner.

Seymour also talked with Seal awhile before the matter came up for vote.

Pullman said he didn't like to see change orders on any county projects, but he wanted a first-class road. He and District 5 Supervisor Jay Cuevas joined with Ladner to pass the motion.

Seymour and District 3 Supervisor Lisa Cowand voted against.

Seal later told the Echo the Lower Bay Road project took exceptionally long to put out to bid, but usually engineer's estimates are in the price range of what a project is expected to cost.

He said changing the bid specifications could have delayed letting out the project by four or five months because of all the paper work required by MDOT.

Earlier in the meeting,

Seymour voted against another change order involving a project at Stennis International Airport.

W.C. Pitts Construction of Waynesboro won the contract to extend the runway safety area, and the Denver-based Airport Development Group, which is the consultant to the airport, hired an engineering firm to oversee the project.

The project took longer than expected to complete, and the consulting engineer submitted an additional charge of \$17,555 for inspection, bringing the total cost of the project to \$96,305.

Airport Manager Bill Cotter later explained the project is one of many underway at Stennis in preparation for installing an Instrument Landing System, and is 90 percent funded by the Federal Aviation Administration.

Cotter said the FAA requires an engineering firm to oversee all projects it funds.

"I will not vote any more for any construction management contract," said Seymour. "We're going to bid it out right. I'm not going to open that door. If the engineer does his job and the specs are right, it should come in right."

The vote was 4-1 to approve the change order, with Seymour against.

In the process of the debate, Port and Harbor Executive Director Hal Walters suggested he and his staff should have a workshop session with supervisors on the issue of contract overruns and construction management in the coming year.

Earlier, supervisors supported the Port's plans to ask the Mississippi Department of Transportation to consider renaming state Hwy. 603 from Interstate 10 to Texas Flat Road, Stennis Airport Parkway.

The new designation may allow the posting of a sign on Interstate 10 telling passing motorists where Stennis Airport is located and what ramp to exit.

Dear S
I have
cookies a
Aman

Dear S
I would
please. I
and the C
Potter sh
Grandma

Nick L

Dear S
I wish
gun. I
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a four wh
woods.

Bobby

Dear S
I want
baby and
Amie

Dear S
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Love,

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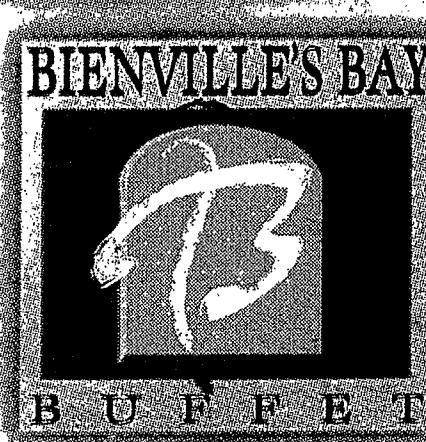
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On behalf of myself and our entire team of Champions, we wish each and every one of you a very Merry Christmas and a prosperous and healthy New Year.

Huey P. White, President

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COMMUNITY

Letters to Santa

Students from Hancock North Central Elementary found out that Santa Claus subscribes to the *Sea Coast Echo*, so, rather than further hamper our already-overburdened mail carriers, they asked us to pass their letters on for them.

Dear Santa,
I have been a good girl this year.
I want a pair of rollerskate shoes a
radio with a CD player. I will have
cookies and milk.
Amanda Baradell

Dear Santa,
I would like a Race Track,
please. I would also like Scooby
and the Cyber Chase and Harry
Potter sheets. I hope I can see
Grandma and Grandpa.
Nick Barnard

Dear Santa,
I wish you will bring me a play
gun. Then me and my Daddy can
go hunting. I also wish that I had
a four wheeler to go hunting in the
woods.
Bobby Moran

Dear Santa,
I want radio and swimming
baby and baby dolls.
Amie Nugent

Dear Santa,
I love Pikachu toys. I would like
to get Mowgli and Tarzan movies.
I also want a watch and a bike.
Love, Brendon Seal

Dear Santa,
Merry Christmas, Santa Clause.
I wish you would bring me some
presents if I am very very nice. I
love you Santa.
Kimberly Cooley

Dear Santa,
I would like a Connect Four
game, a Santa paint set, a doll
house, a kitchen set and an Easy
Bake Oven.
Love, Alyssa Hoda

Dear Santa,
Hi I'm Raven. I have been good.
I want a doll, make-up, games,
books, book bag with wheels. Tell
Rudolph I wish him a Merry
Christmas and I wish you a Merry
Christmas too.
Raven Necaise

Dear Santa,
I want a CD player with cd's.
Also clothes and toys. Danielle
got her ears pierced she wants
some jewelry.
Thanks, Danielle Ladner

Dear Santa,
I know you are busy. Could
you check your list to see if I am
on it. I get in trouble sometimes
but I am good most of the time.
Please see if you have a fire motor
cycle with a black jacket.
Thank you, Seth Ladner

Dear Santa,
I want some new jeans,
Baby Doll, Bed, Barbie Doll,
Make-up, Karoke Machine.
Love, Jordyn Hogsten

Dear Santa,
Will you please bring me
Walk Wag Tramp and a
Super-Scooter Shane and a
trampoline. I have been
very good this year.
Love, Brittany Tribble

Dear Santa,
My name is Dillon
Powe. I am 5 years old. I
want a bike.
Danielle Garfield

Dear Santa,
I want to say happy birth
day to Jesus.
Danielle Garfield

Dear Santa,
I want you to bring me a
new bike and some stuff to go
on my bike. And some new
trucks and new cloths.
Darrin Ladner

Dear Santa,
This year I want a new bike, a
gameboy, a playstation and a
pooltable. I have tried to be good
this year. Please bring me these
toys.
Keith Stidham

LETTERS--PAGE 4B



Just for you: A Christmas story'

I realize the story I'm about to tell didn't happen at Christmas, but it still is as much of the essence of Christmas as the drummer boy's story.

It actually happened just after Thanksgiving several years ago when I was returning to Mississippi from a visit with my son in Maryland.

I left at about noon, figuring it was going to be a long drive and I would get a good ways along before stopping for the night and finishing the trip the next day. Some snow was forecast and I wanted to get ahead of it.

When I reached Richmond, heavy flakes were starting to fall and the Virginia road



Views From a Front Porch

by Paul Estranza La Violette

laviolet@mail.datasync.com

crews were already out clearing the little amount of snow that had started to accumulate. I had all-weather tires on my car and decided I would continue until it got worse and then quit for the night.

This was a mistake.

As I crossed into North Carolina, I found that there were no state road crews out

and the snow was already starting to drift across the road. There was little to no traffic.

After about fifty or so miles, conditions started to get bad, and I began to think about stopping. I passed a sign advertising a Holiday Inn thirty miles ahead.

By now I had slowed to about thirty miles an hour

and consoled myself that this would only be another hour's drive. Although the road conditions had deteriorated to only one lane, the car was handling well and it seemed to me that conditions were as bad as they could get. In a little over one hour I would be in a nice warm bed.

I was wrong. The radio was of little help. Mostly static and various North Carolina announcers telling me how the snow had caught everyone by surprise and that schools would be closed tomorrow. Oh yes, and that the storm was expected to worsen.

By now I knew this. The road had become extremely

bad and I kicked myself when I saw that I had just passed an exit. I wanted to turn and head back to Richmond. The sign immediately after the exit ramp said that the next exit was fifteen miles. Maybe there would be a motel or something.

Soon I was down to five miles an hour and I realized it would take all my skill at driving for the next three hours to make it to the exit.

I concentrated on staying inside the two barely visible ruts in the road. For the first time, I started to worry, the storm was getting even worse, and my gas gauge said less than a quarter of a tank.

Three times I saw dark

humps that were cars lying at odd angles in the center median and in the down sloping shoulders that bordered the road. These were mostly covered by snow and their interiors were dark.

Were they abandoned or were there people in these cars? I was too scared to stop, not sure I could get my skidding, twisting car moving again. And even if I did stop, I had no coat or boots to push my way through the deep snow to those isolated mounds to check.

Finally, the exit appeared and it seemed that the wind had blown the ramp clear of

VIEWS--PAGE 4B

St. Stanislaus hosts Academic Competition for Excellence

The 11th annual St. Stanislaus Academic Competition for Excellence (ACE) was held on the campus of St. Stanislaus in Bay St. Louis Dec. 1, according to Brother Ronald Hingle, SC, principal.

More than 450 students from fifth, sixth, and seventh grades participated. They represented 46 schools from Hancock, Harrison, Jackson, Lamar, Pearl River, and Stone counties.

Six students from each school in the counties named had been invited to compete in one of five subject areas: English, mathematics, science, social studies, and computer literacy (seventh



ACE winners in the English competition include, front row from left, Jordan Pettigrew, Emily Alexander, Ethan Lee, and Amy Hebert; back row, Hilary Jones, Natalie Warner, William Lang, Guy Wood, and Jennifer Wong. Not pictured is Thomas Maher.

Feliz Navidad

May the spirit of Christmas warm your heart and home just as your visits have warmed us.

Gracias, amigos!!!

Los Tres Amigos
824-B Hwy 90
Bay St. Louis
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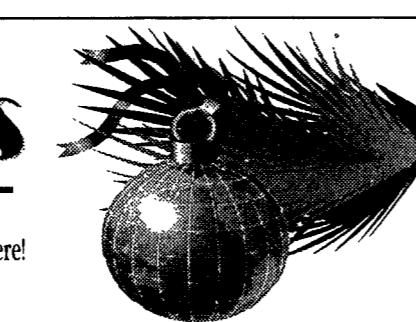


ACE winners in the mathematics competition include, front row from left, Laura Mitchell, Keith Page, Evan Tyler, Yasmin Noor, and Joseph Simpson; back row, Michael Lewis, Jordan Creel, Thomas Ales, and Aaron Lepre.

graders only). A competitive test was administered for each subject, and trophies were awarded to the first, second, and third place finishers.

The winning fifth grade participants were:

English: first place, Guy Wood from Bay Catholic



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day of Christmas

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a leaking, nine faucets splashing,
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ACE winners in computer literacy include, from left, Kenny Van Alstyne, Tuan Nguyen and Katie Holmes.

Elementary, Bay St. Louis; second place, Ethan Lee from North Woolmarket Elementary and Middle School, Biloxi; third place, Amy Hebert from Our Lady of Fatima, Biloxi; and honorable mention, Thomas Maher from St. James School, Gulfport.

The winning seventh grade participants were:

Mathematics: first place, Yasmin Noor from McCaughan Elementary School, Long Beach; second place, Jordan Creel from Moss Point Escatawpa Elementary, Moss Point; and third place, Laura Mitchell from St. James School, Gulfport.

Science: first place, Sabrina Bradford from St. Clare, Waveland; second place, Blake Paysse from W. J. Quarles Elementary School, Long Beach; and third place, Will Cochran from Resurrection Catholic Elementary School, Pascagoula.

Social Studies: first place, Kristen Kennedy from St. James School, Gulfport; second place, Hillary Goodfellow from Bay Catholic Elementary, Bay St. Louis; third place, Houston Horne from Resurrection Catholic Elementary School, Pascagoula.

Social Studies: first place, Anthony O'Neal from Stone Middle School, Wiggins; second place, John Mechanic III from North Woolmarket Elementary and Middle School, Biloxi; and third place, Jonathan Weaver from Colmer Middle School, Pascagoula.

The winning sixth grade participants were:

English: first place tie Emily Alexander from Pearl River Central Elementary School, Carriere; William Lang from Ocean Springs Middle School, Ocean Springs; and Jordan Pettigrew from Hancock Middle School, Kiln.

Mathematics: first place, Keith Page from North Woolmarket Elementary and Middle School, Biloxi; second place, Michael Lewis from Popp's Ferry Elementary, Biloxi; and third place, Joseph Simpson from St. James School, Gulfport.

Science: first place, Gabriel Posadas from Colmer Middle School, Pascagoula; second place, Heather Schmittbach from Bay-Waveland Middle School, Bay St. Louis; and third place, Mallory Henderson from Trent Lott Middle School, Pascagoula.

Social Studies: first place, J.

T. Tomes from Trent Lott

Middle School, Pascagoula; second place, Rachael Knight from Long Beach Middle School, Long Beach; and third place, Justin Mellish from St. Martin Middle School, Biloxi.

The winning seventh grade participants were:

English: first place, Hilary Jones from Ocean Springs Middle School, Ocean Springs; second place, Jennifer Wong from Our Lady Academy, Bay St. Louis; and third place, Natalie Warner from St. John High School, Gulfport.

Mathematics: first place, Aaron Lepre from North Woolmarket Elementary and Middle School, Biloxi; second place, Thomas Ales from Ocean Springs Middle School, Ocean Springs; and third place, Evan Tyler from Colmer Middle School, Pascagoula.

Science: first place, Jordan Marshall from St. John High School, Gulfport; second place, J. T. Wilson from Vancleave Middle School, Vancleave; and third place, Gabriel Mayo from North Woolmarket Elementary and Middle School, Biloxi.

Social Studies: first place, Anthony O'Neal from Stone Middle School, Wiggins; second place, John Mechanic III from North Woolmarket Elementary and Middle School, Biloxi; and third place, Jonathan Weaver from Colmer Middle School, Pascagoula.

Computer Literacy: first place, Kenny Van Alstyne from Long Beach Middle School, Long Beach; second place, Katie Holmes from Resurrection Catholic Middle and High School, Pascagoula; and third place, Tuan Nguyen from St. Martin Middle School, Biloxi.

St. Stanislaus High School is a Catholic residency and day school for young men in grades 6-12. The school fosters character formation and integrates faith development within a curriculum which is primarily college preparatory.

Science: first place, Gabriel Posadas from Colmer Middle School, Pascagoula; second place, Heather Schmittbach from Bay-Waveland Middle School, Bay St. Louis; and third place, Mallory Henderson from Trent Lott Middle School, Pascagoula.

Social Studies: first place, J.

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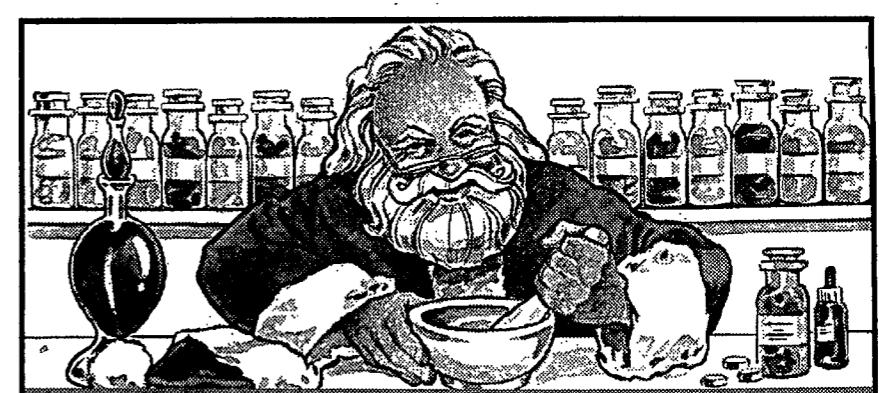
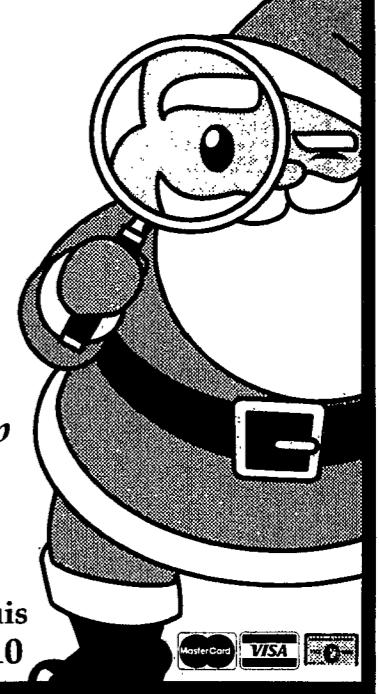
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Emerson offers full scholarships to Interlochen Arts Camp

The top high school musicians around the country are invited to apply for an Emerson Scholars Award to the world-famous Interlochen Arts Camp in northern Michigan.

One student from each state, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico will receive a full scholarship for the 2002 Interlochen Arts Camp.

The Emerson Scholars Award is a \$4,944 scholarship, which provides full tuition, private lessons, and room and board for the eight-week summer program. The 75th Camp season dates are June 16-Aug. 12, 2002.

Applicants must be in grades nine through 12 and be proficient on strings, winds, percussion instruments or harp. They

must submit a taped solo performance with piano accompaniment with their application.

Applications must be postmarked by Feb. 15, 2002, and winners will be announced by April 15, 2002.

Winners will be determined solely on merit.

Established in 1987, the Emerson Scholars Program recognizes exceptional high school musicians and gives them an opportunity to hone their talents in an environment that is recognized around the world as the premier training ground for young artists.

Interlochen Arts Camp was opened in 1928 by Dr. Joseph E. Maddy, a Kansas-born music educator who looked to Michigan's north woods for a permanent home for young musicians, actors, dancers, writers and visual artists.

The camp is part of Interlochen Center for the Arts, which also operates Interlochen Arts Academy, the nation's premier fine arts high school; Interlochen Arts Festival, the annual presentation of more than 750 concerts, readings, plays and exhibits by students, faculty and guest artists; Interlochen Public Radio; and Interlochen Pathfinder School, a pre-K through eighth-grade school for students in the Grand Traverse region.

For more information, or to obtain an application, write the Emerson Scholars Program, Interlochen Center for the Arts, P.O. Box 199, Interlochen, MI, 49643.

Call (231) 276-7472, or visit Interlochen online at www.interlochen.org.

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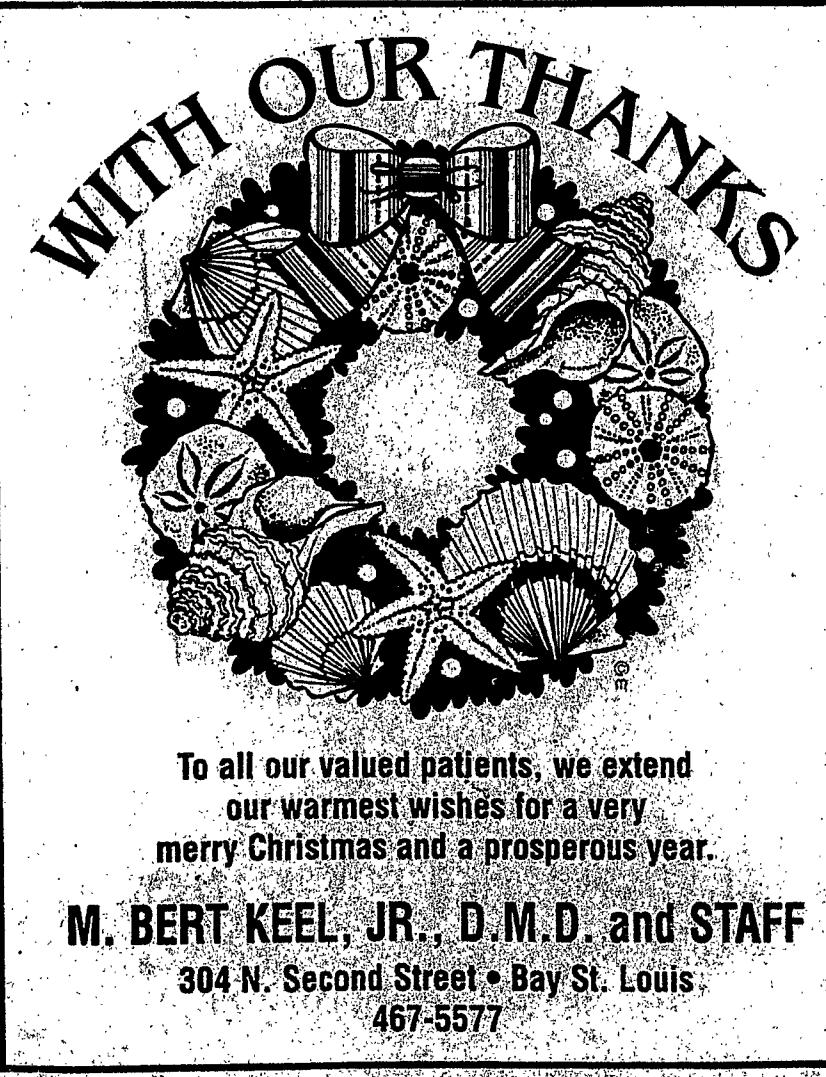
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Weddings



Lauren Eleuterius and Jason Chiniche

Eleuterius-Chiniche

Jack and Claire Eleuterius of Biloxi announce the engagement and forthcoming marriage of their daughter, Lauren Eleuterius, to Jason Chiniche of Bay St. Louis, son of James and Betty Chiniche of Bay St. Louis.

The bride-elect is a 1997 Mercy Cross High School graduate. She works in the management office of Edgewater Mall.

The wedding will take place January 5, 2002 at Nativity BVM Cathedral in Biloxi.

The prospective groom is a 1997 graduate of St. Stanislaus and will be graduated this month from Mississippi State University where is a member of the Kappa Sigma fraternity.

He is employed with Lockwood, Andrews & Newnam. He is a grandson of Edith Ruh of Waveland.

The wedding will take place January 5, 2002 at Nativity BVM Cathedral in Biloxi.

Project Blue Light urges support this holiday season

Concerns of Police Survivors, Inc. (COPS), a national grief support organization comprised of nearly 8,000 surviving families of law enforcement officers killed in the line of duty, is asking concerned citizens and law enforcement agencies nationwide to again support Project Blue Light.

During the holiday season you are asked to put blue lights in your holiday decorations and your windows and tie blue ribbons on car antennas to show support for law enforcement officers who have given their lives in the line of duty for the citizens they have served.

Additionally, this will be a show of support for those who continue to work the streets 24 hours a day, every day of the year.

Several years ago, Dolly Craig, the surviving mother-in-law of Daniel Gleason, a Philadelphia (Pa.) police officer killed in the line of duty in 1986, sent her Christmas message to the COPS National office.

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Elizabeth Boozer is shown with the plaque she was presented recently at the Diamondhead Daisy Troop 194 bridging ceremony. The plaque reads, "In appreciation to Elizabeth Anne Boozer, Daisy Assistant, for guiding us in our first year of Girl Scouts, Diamondhead Daisy Troop 194, 2000-2001." Elizabeth assisted the Daisies and their leaders at each meeting and all events attended by the Daisies.

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A Christmas Tale

*"Twas the night before Christmas and there wasn't a sound,
The North Pole was quiet, 'cause all their motors were down.*

"Christmas is cancelled," Santa said with a sigh.

"Have you called Bay Motor Winding?" was Rudolph's reply.

"But would anyone come out at this time and date?

Since Bay Motor has 24 hour service, it's never too late.

So Santa decided to give the boys a call...

And thanks to Bay Motor Winding,

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and many Thanks
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and
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Views -- A Christmas Story

snow. I started up and found that although, the snow was gone, there was ice.

I was half way up when the rear of the car turned slightly and, before I could compensate, I had spun off the ramp deep into a snow bank.

I was helpless. There was no way I could get the car out of the snow. Even my physically getting out of the car would have been disastrous. With the shoes I had on, I might as well have been barefoot.

I turned the headlights off and for the first time looked around me. There was not a filling station or any sign of a motel at the road at the top of the ramp, not even a house. Nothing.

Up to the head of the ramp, I could see what appeared to be two dim headlights moving down the ramp toward me.

It was a John Deere tractor and it stopped just above me and the driver climbed down from the tractor's single seat and moved down the slope to where I was stranded.

I rolled down the window and stared at the bundled up figure peering at me through a heavy muffler.

"I can't pull you up to the top, the ice is too much," he

yelled over the noise of the wind. "Ain't nothing up there anyways. If I get you down, do you think you can make it to the next exit? It's about eight miles and there's a motel there and stuff."

I nodded and he went back to the tractor and got a towline. For a moment he disappeared into the snow in front of the car and then stood up and, giving me a thumbs up, headed back to his tractor.

All of this was slow going in the snow and once he slipped off the ice. Once back at the tractor, he mounted the seat and after twisting around to signal me once more, drove the tractor down the ramp.

The car twisted violently and then moved slowly out of the bank up onto the side rather than on the roadway. I realized he was trying to keep off the icy ramp where I would perhaps slide and run him down.

I started the engine to keep the car somewhat under control and after a few minutes he had pulled me back on the highway into the two barely-visible ruts.

He got down and again, disappearing under the car, retrieved his towline and placed it on the rear of the tractor. Slowly, almost ponderously,

he made his way back to my window.

"It ain't perfect," he panted, "but it's the best I can do." I was exuberant with my thanks and asked how much I owed him.

"No money," he laughed. "I heard the news of the snow on the radio and came over to the exit here to see if I could help some. I live with my wife about a mile down the road. We don't have this kind a' weather too often. Figured people would be needing a tow or something. I managed to help about five."

"You're the first come by in awhile. I'm going to have to call it quits; I'm freezing cold. Been here almost four hours. I don't reckon anyone else will be able to get here anymore tonight."

I could see the bundled figure in the dim light off the reflecting snow. I couldn't tell if he was heavy set or thin, or even how old he was. He seemed of average height although in the snow it was hard to tell.

Except for the North Carolina accent, he was undistinguished in any way. I could have passed him on the street and not even noticed our passing. Yet here he was when I needed help.

We said good-bye and I drove on, taking my concentration off the road for a split second to see in back of me, the light of his tractor going back up the ramp.

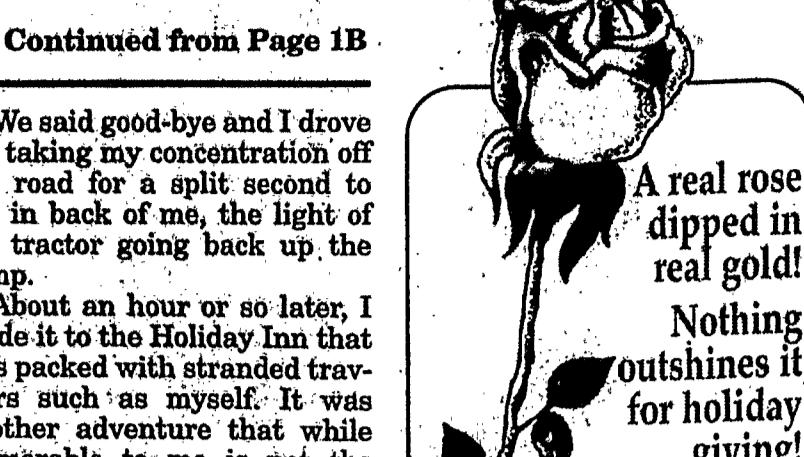
About an hour or so later, I made it to the Holiday Inn that was packed with stranded travelers such as myself. It was another adventure that while memorable to me is not the purpose of my telling about this incident.

My main purpose is to describe a man who left his warm house to go down to the road "to see if I could help some." And when he found that he could, he stayed until he could help no more.

No, it wasn't Christmas, but the spirit that permeates this time of year for us appears to stay in his heart for all of the days of the year.

I've decided that when I die and go to heaven, he will be the first person I'll look up. If he is not there, I'll go out by the gate and wait.

He'll be along sooner or later.



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dipped in
real gold!

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outshines it
for holiday
giving!

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A real 12" long-stemmed
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dozen roses, you'll give her a
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Letters

Dear Santa,
I have tried my best to be good. Please bring me Hot Wheels Cyber City.
Bailey Fletcher

Dear Santa,
I hope all the children that are poor gets a special Christmas gift from you. Guide your reindeers.
Love, Blair Schuemann

Dear Santa,
Please bring me a Rescue Heroes ship and 3 packs of PokeMan Cards.
Christopher Penton

Dear Santa,

I want a bike, bow-n-arrow, Power Ranger Colors Puppy Skates CD Player

Thank you, Noah Ahlers

Dear Santa,
I want a Rock-Em Sock-Em Robot for Christmas. I also want a go-cart, a Fake BB Gun, and a Transformig Cheeta that is what I want for Christmas. Santa Clause, please say hello to your Elves and reindeer for me please.
Corey Williams

Dear Santa,

Please bring me a new bike without training wheels. Hopskotch/doll Barbie doll and radio games cloths good surprises.

Love, Heather Purser

Dear Santa,
I want a Jeep play pen for my baby doll play stor. I want a baby cat.

Diamond Cornell

Dear Santa,
I want a game Cabe and a Box.

**Merry Christmas
from Blake Dykes**



Sitting in the midst of animal food and supplies and showing some of the Animal Shelter items collected by Our Lady Academy Campus Ministry Council members are, from left, Rachel Wright, sophomore representative; Laura Ellis, sophomore and Council treasurer; Alicia Asper, junior representative; Colleen Bartholomew, senior representative; and Sarah Crowe, sophomore representative.

OLA participates in shelter drive

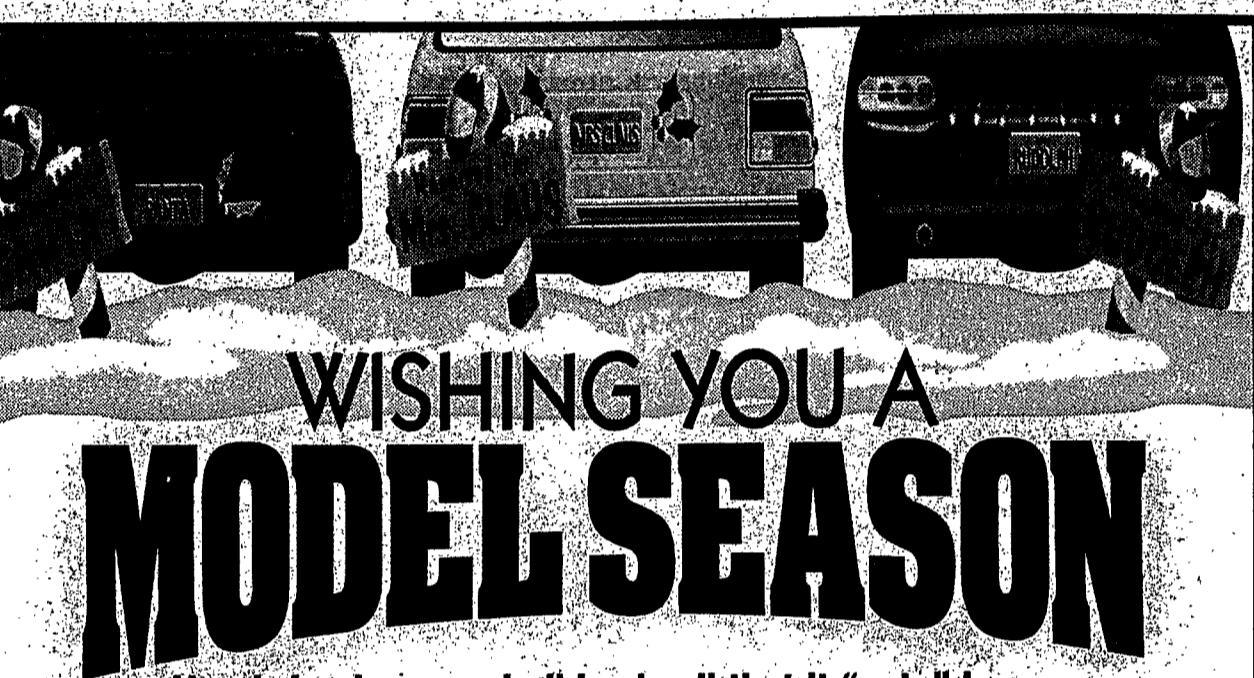
Our Lady Academy participated in the Fall 2001 Shelter Drive sponsored by the Friends of the Animal Shelter in Hancock County.

Organized by the OLA Campus Ministry Council, the OLA students brought in a pickup full of canned and dry cat

and dog food, cat litter, Pine-sol, all-purpose cleaners, laundry soap, dish soap, spray disinfectant, paper towels, and newspapers.

OLA '99 graduate Chevonne Daigre, representing the Friends of the Animal Shelter organization, presented the project to OLA and picked up the donated items.

A competition among the classes at OLA resulted in the eighth grade winning a pizza lunch, to be given by Daigre and the Friends organization. The OLA eighth grade will also be given free student memberships in the Friends organization.



**WISHING YOU A
MODEL SEASON**

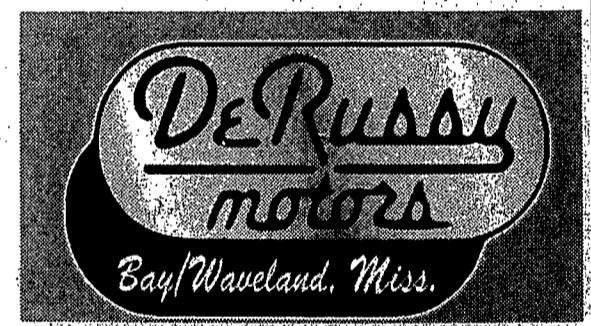
Here's hoping your holiday is all that it "auto" be.

WITH
Best Wishes
FROM ALL OF US AT

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Holiday Deadlines

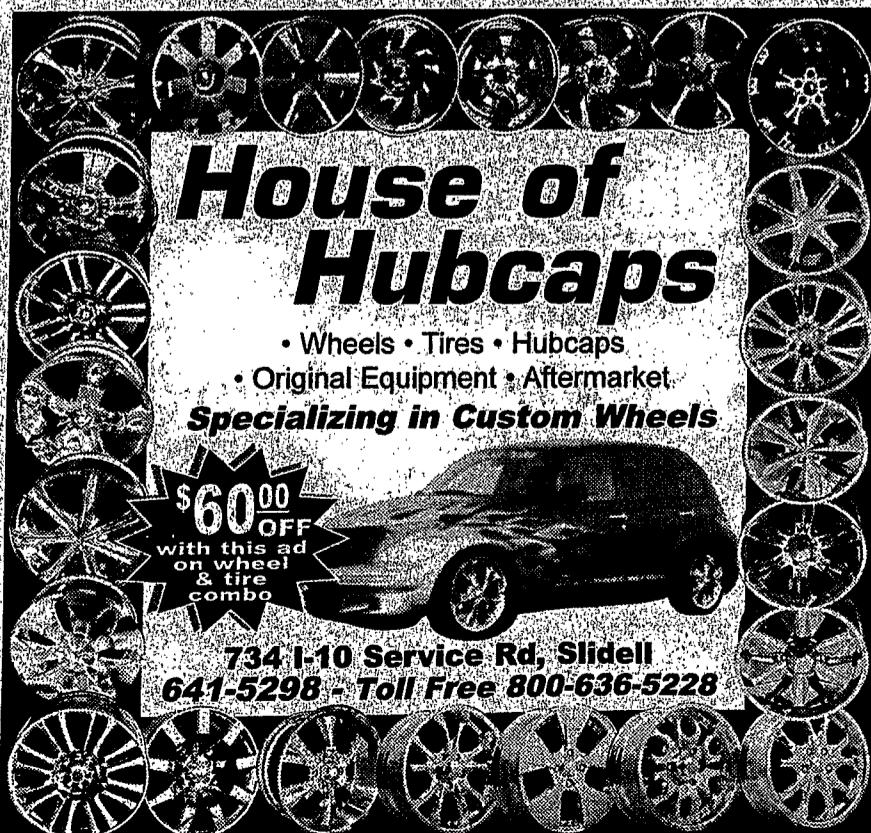
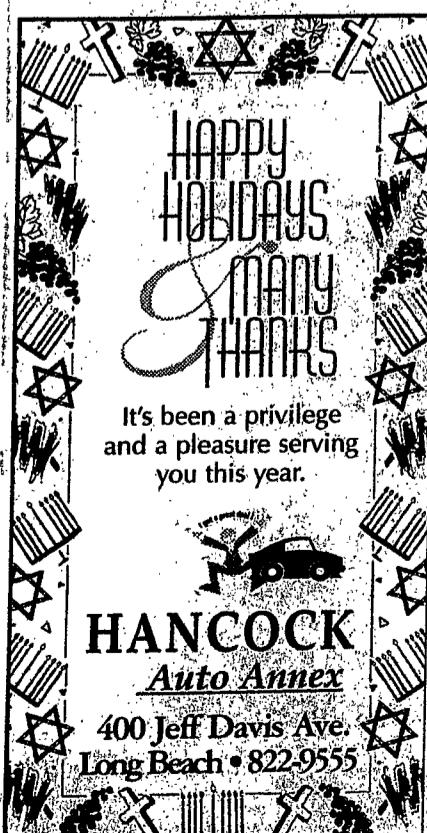
Classified and Retail Advertising deadlines for the December 26, 2001 edition of the Sea Coast Echo Extra and the December 27, 2001 edition of the Sea Coast Echo is 5 p.m. Friday, December 21, 2001.

Deadlines for the January 2, 2002 edition of the Sea Coast Echo Extra and the January 3, 2002 edition of the Sea Coast Echo is 5 p.m. Friday, December 28, 2001.

The Sea Coast Echo offices will be closed Monday and Tuesday, December 24 and 25, 2001 and Monday and Tuesday, December 31, 2001 and January 1, 2002.

The Sea Coast Echo

124 Court Street • Bay St. Louis • 467-5474



Second Street Elem. Honor Roll announced

FIRST NINE WEEKS FOURTH GRADE

Alpha: Brianna Anthony, Steven Baudin, Timothy Brister, Chad Broadhead, Allison Calhoun, Anthony Cardinale, Aasta Cháez, Rodney Chowning, Carissa Coffey, Brittany Colson, Ashley Cucurullo, Lyndi Cuevas, Rainee Davis, Brittany Dougherty, Jody Favre, Savanna Ganacheau, Zachary George, Rosemary Gooding, Megan Harris, Colby Huff, Jasmine Jones, Shelby Knowles, Meggie LaFontaine, Chelsea Levy, Keiondra Lewis, Kristian Lyons, Loretta Marion, John Mirandy, Brandon Mitchell.

Beta: Stephanie Myrick, Devon Narcisse, Danica Patterson, Cynthia Preyou, Nikole Radtke, Samantha Rehm, Chelsea Schoonmaker, Victoria Smith, Caitlyn Spell, Christopher Strong, Ernest Taylor, Michael Taylor, Sam Tenney, Ashleigh Torres, Gabrielle Witcomb, Chanice Woodmansee.

Beta: Jordan Banashak, Michael Binet, Dakota Caldwell, Megan Chatman, William Chisholm, Vincent Cláudel, Donald James Drummond, Brandon Dvorak, Skyler Favre, Brittany Feigel, Glenn Fisher, Harold Fontenot, Kimberly Gibson, Christopher Hair, Lionel Haynes, Britney Johnson, Demury Johnson, Quinton Johnson, Kyle Johnston, Tyler Jordon, Kaylee Karl, Hayden Ladner, Joshua Ladner, Kathlene Lam, Nicholas Lambeth, Damién

Lewis, Brandon Miller, Nicole Pepperman, Bailey Perniciaro, Craig Perry, Jordan Pursley, Cody Royal, Elizabeth Schroer, I'Esha Smith, Tori Szczablewski, Elizabeth Tenney, Natalie Thompson, Justin Thornton, Clara Valle, Michael Wieland, Pansey Wilcox, Makesi Willis, Jarrod Wilson, Brett WOMACK.

FIFTH GRADE

Alpha: Shey Bean, Mallory Blaize, Alyssia Bobbitt, Christine Bounds, Shelby Bounds, Cherokee Buras, Harold Cann,

Kayla Cardwell, Brandon Carver, Stephen Cox, Sean Denny, Macy Dowden, Edward Elizondo, Deshaina Farve, Ashley Francis, Stephen Gieseler, Breanna Goff, Ian Gorum, Chloe Harry, Jordan Heintz-Black, Kendrick Hinton, Christina Johnson, Allen Jones, Joseph Keim, Edward Knowles, Sidney Laughlin, Kyle Lowry, Orlando Lyons, Brittany Massengill, Courtney Monti, Phillippe Moore, Brooke

Moran, Cassandra Myers, Paige Ruff, Julia Scafidi, Clarence Sheppard, Jamie Sherman, James Smith, Karli Smith, Sarah Solleberger, Mimi Ta, Lance Tomashic, Allan Villalta, Hope Walley, Leann Williams, Phil Williams, Karen Yan, Veronica Zingarelli.

Beta: Ashley Anderson, Matthew Anderson, David Bare, Austin Bell, Ivana Booker, Sherell Brignac, Donna Compton, Elizabeth Davis, Elexis Dorsey, Zach Fayard,

Hilce Garcia, Danielle Gladney, Ashley Guerrero, Edwin Gyins, Gabrille Harlow, Joshua Hawkins, Demetrius Jones, Dominique Jones, Tori Kinard, Hillary Ladner, Jack Ly, Chris Marchetta, Britney Maurigi, Patrick Prendergast, Alex Proulx, Miranda Roberts.

Nickole Rogeau, Hannah Spence, Tyler Suria, Khiry Thomas, Tyler Torgerson, George Trotter, Farren Washington, Kelly Whitman.

Space Center sponsors area schools in robotics competition

NASA's John C. Stennis Space Center, a strong supporter of the annual For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology (FIRST) Robotics Competition, will support six Mississippi teams and one Louisiana team in this year's competition. The FIRST program, founded by world-renowned scientist and inventor

Dean Kamen, is meant to inspire students to explore science and technology fields. NASA, which sponsored more FIRST teams in the 2001 competition than any other business or organization, will assist this year's teams in building their robots for the 2002 event.

Teams receiving support from Stennis this year are Choctaw Central High School in Philadelphia; Piney Woods School and Provine High School, both located in Jackson; Picayune High School; Warren

Central High School in Vicksburg; Gulfport High School; and Pearl River High School in Pearl River, La.

Stennis offers grants to qualifying teams for their first two years of competition and then offers mentorship and advice.

When teams are designing and

constructing their robots, students work side-by-side with

Stennis scientists and engineers.

"FIRST is a valuable tool for students, teaching them not only science and engineering, but teamwork and problem-solving skills. NASA's Office of Education at Stennis wants to expose as many students as possible to FIRST."

"By offering grants to schools for two years, we are able to get those schools started and build community support for their team. We can then work with other schools and introduce

them to the program," Wanda DeMaggio, pre-college/technology officer for the NASA Office of Education, at Stennis said.

Past Stennis teams have competed successfully in this program. The Gulfport team won first-place recognition and the Rookie of the Year Award in 2000 and earned second-place honors in 2001.

Warren Central placed in the finals in 2001 regional competition, and the team from Choctaw Central High School won a special Judge's Award in 2001.

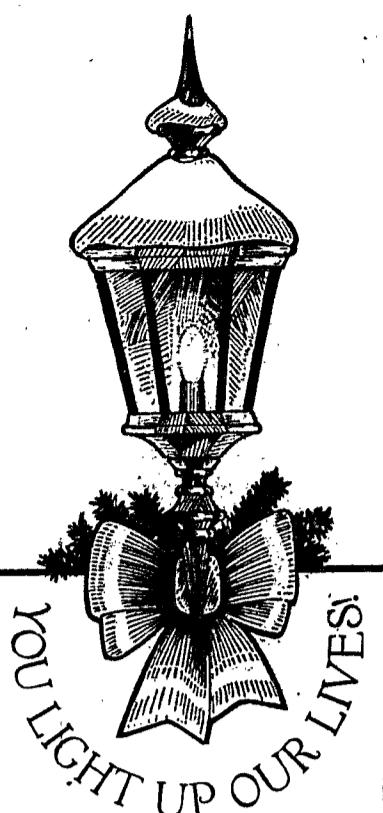
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The Sea Coast Echo

Hancock's Local Newspaper since 1892

Advertising is an investment in the success of your business. Every business has some kind of competition, either within the town, nearby city or from mail order firms. Your potential customers are being courted by your competitors. If you do not invite those customers to do business with you, they are likely to forget you and buy elsewhere. It is not uncommon for consumers to switch their trading from one store to another. Advertising helps to keep old customers and equally as important, make new ones.

Our community is constantly growing which means that potential customers are moving into the market area all the time. Advertising gives these newcomers a reason to visit your store.

Most businesses budget for their advertising expenses just as they do for other necessities such as rent, phones, etc. Smart business people realize that advertising is imperative to keep their business growing.

Another reason to advertise is that advertising is news! You profit by telling our readers what is new in your store. Through advertising, you can let a wide audience know the product lines you carry, the quality of your merchandise, the completeness of your service and the character of your store.

If you have something to sell, then you have something to advertise. When you have nothing to advertise, you are out of business. Advertising is designed to build your business and works best when it is repeated regularly. Consistent advertising pays off!

Now that you know some of the reasons to advertise, you're probably wondering how you can advertise most effectively. Surveys show that ads in local newspapers have more impact than in any other medium. The Sea Coast Echo goes into the majority of the homes in Hancock County. The Sea Coast Echo is full of interesting reading, it is a part of our community. People like to read about people and The Sea Coast Echo is full of pictures and stories about local people. The most important reason to advertise in The Sea Coast Echo is that our readers are your customers.

If you're looking for the best advertising value for your money, then you should contact the advertising department at The Sea Coast Echo. One of our advertising representatives will be happy to discuss the many advertising options offered by The Sea Coast Echo. For more information you may call 467-5474, Monday through Friday 8am to 5pm, or stop by our office at 124 Court Street, Bay St. Louis.

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Views -- A Christmas Story

snow. I started up and found that although, the snow was gone, there was ice.

I was half way up when the rear of the car turned slightly and, before I could compensate, I had spun off the ramp deep into a snow bank.

I was helpless. There was no way I could get the car out of the snow. Even my physically getting out of the car would have been disastrous. With the shoes I had on, I might as well have been barefoot.

I turned the headlights off and for the first time looked around me. There was not a filling station or any sign of a motel at the road at the top of the ramp, not even a house. Nothing.

Up to the head of the ramp, I could see what appeared to be two dim headlights moving down the ramp toward me.

It was a John Deere tractor and it stopped just above me and the driver climbed down from the tractor's single seat and moved down the slope to where I was stranded.

I rolled down the window and stared at the bundled up figure peering at me through a heavy muffler.

"I can't pull you up to the top, the ice is too much," he

yelled over the noise of the wind. "Ain't nothing up there anyways. If I get you down, do you think you can make it to the next exit? It's about eight miles and there's a motel there and stuff."

I nodded and he went back to the tractor and got a towline. For a moment he disappeared in the snow in front of the car and then stood up and, giving me a thumbs up, headed back to his tractor.

All of this was slow going in the snow and once he slipped on the ice. Once back at the tractor, he mounted the seat and after twisting around to signal me once more, drove the tractor down the ramp.

The car twisted violently and then moved slowly out of the bank up onto the side rather than on the roadway. I realized he was trying to keep off the icy ramp where I would perhaps slide and run him down.

I started the engine to keep the car somewhat under control and after a few minutes he had pulled me back on the highway though in the snow it was hard to tell.

He got down and again, disappearing under the car, retrieved his towline and placed it on the rear of the tractor. Slowly, almost ponderously,

he made his way back to my window.

"It ain't perfect," he panted, "but it's the best I can do." I was exuberant with my thanks and asked how much I owed him.

"No money," he laughed. "I heard the news of the snow on the radio and came over to the exit here to see if I could help some. I live with my wife about a mile down the road. We don't have this kind a' weather too often. Figured people would be needing a tow or something. I managed to help about five."

"You're the first come by in awhile. I'm going to have to call it quits; I'm freezing cold. Been here almost four hours. I don't reckon anyone else will be able to get here anymore tonight."

I could see the bundled figure in the dim light off the reflecting snow. I couldn't tell if he was heavy set or thin, or even how old he was. He seemed of average height although in the snow it was hard to tell.

Except for the North Carolina accent, he was undistinguished in any way. I could have passed him on the street and not even noticed our passing. Yet here he was when I needed help.

He got down and again, disappearing under the car, retrieved his towline and placed it on the rear of the tractor. Slowly, almost ponderously,

Continued from Page 1B

We said good-bye and I drove on, taking my concentration off the road for a split second to see in back of me, the light of his tractor going back up the ramp.

About an hour or so later, I made it to the Holiday Inn that was packed with stranded travelers such as myself. It was another adventure that while memorable to me is not the purpose of my telling about this incident.

My main purpose is to describe a man who left his warm house to go down to the road to see if I could help some. And when he found that he could, he stayed until he could help no more.

No, it wasn't Christmas, but the spirit that permeates this time of year for us appears to stay in his heart for all of the days of the year.

I've decided that when I die and go to heaven, he will be the first person I'll look up. If he is not there, I'll go out by the gate and wait.

He'll be along soon later.

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Continued from Page 1B

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Colby Huff, Jasmine Jones, Shelby Knowles, Maggie LaFontaine, Chelsea Levy, Keiondra Lewis, Kristian Lyons, Loretta Marion, John Mirandy, Brandon Mitchell, Stephanie Myrick, Devon Narcisse, Danica Patterson, Cynthia Prevou, Nikole Radtke, Samantha Rehm, Chelsea Schoonmaker, Victoria Smith, Caitlyn Spell, Christopher Strong, Ernest Taylor, Michael Taylor, Sam Tenney, Ashleigh Torres, Gabrielle Witcomb, Chance Woodmansee.

BETA

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Central High School in Vicksburg, Gulfport High School, and Pearl River High School in Pearl River, La. Stennis offers grants to qualifying teams for their first two years of competition and then offers mentorship and advice. When teams are designing and constructing their robots, students work side-by-side with engineers and engineers.

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Past Stennis' teams have competed successfully in this program. The Gulfport team won first-place recognition and the Rookie of the Year Award in 2000 and earned second-place honors in 2001.

Six of the Stennis-sponsored teams will travel to Houston, Texas, this spring for the Lone Star Regional Competition; Provine High School's team will travel to regional competition in St. Louis, Mo. Teams may have the option to attend the national competition in Orlando, Fla. For more information about Stennis' involvement in the FIRST Robotics program, contact Stennis Space Center Office of Education, Pre-College/Technology Officer, Wanda DeMaggio at 228-688-2091.

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view

Sea Coast Echo

Rock's Local Newspaper since 1892

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Views -- A Christmas Story

snow. I started up and found that although, the snow was gone, there was ice.

I was half way up when the rear of the car turned slightly and, before I could compensate, I had spun off the ramp deep into a snow bank.

I was helpless. There was no way I could get the car out of the snow. Even my physically getting out of the car would have been disastrous. With the shoes I had on, I might as well have been barefoot.

I turned the headlights off and for the first time looked around me. There was not a filling station or any sign of a motel at the road at the top of the ramp, not even a house. Nothing.

Up to the head of the ramp, I could see what appeared to be two dim headlights moving down the ramp toward me.

It was a John Deere tractor and it stopped just above me and the driver climbed down from the tractor's single seat and moved down the slope to where I was stranded.

I rolled down the window and stared at the bundled-up figure peering at me through a heavy muffler.

"I can't pull you up to the top, the ice is too much," he

yelled over the noise of the wind. "Ain't nothing up there anyways. If I get you down, do you think you can make it to the next exit? It's about eight miles and there's a motel there and stuff."

I nodded and he went back to the tractor and got a towline. For a moment he disappeared in the snow in front of the car and then stood up and, giving me a thumbs up, headed back to his tractor.

All of this was slow going in the snow and once he slipped on the ice. Once back at the tractor, he mounted the seat and after twisting around to signal me once more, drove the tractor down the ramp.

The car twisted violently and then moved slowly out of the bank up onto the side rather than on the roadway. I realized he was trying to keep off the icy ramp where I would perhaps slide and run him down.

I started the engine to keep the car somewhat under control and after a few minutes he had pulled me back on the highway into the two barely visible ruts.

He got down and again, disappearing under the car, retrieved his towline and placed it on the rear of the tractor. Slowly, almost ponderously,

he made his way back to my window.

"It ain't perfect," he panted, "but it's the best I can do." I was exuberant with my thanks and asked how much I owed him.

"No money," he laughed. "I heard the news of the snow on the radio and came over to the exit here to see if I could help some. I live with my wife about a mile down the road. We don't have this kind a' weather too often. Figured people would be needing a tow or something. I managed to help about five."

"You're the first come by in awhile. I'm going to have to call it quits; I'm freezing cold. Been here almost four hours. I don't reckon anyone else will be able to get here anymore tonight."

I could see the bundled figure in the dim light off the reflecting snow. I couldn't tell if he was heavy set or thin, or even how old he was. He seemed of average height although in the snow it was hard to tell.

Except for the North Carolina accent, he was undistinguished in any way. I could have passed him on the street and not even noticed our passing. Yet here he was when I needed help.

Continued from Page 1B

We said good-bye and I drove on, taking my concentration off the road for a split second to see in back of me, the light of his tractor going back up the ramp.

About an hour or so later, I made it to the Holiday Inn that was packed with stranded travelers such as myself. It was another adventure that while memorable to me is not the purpose of my telling about this incident.

My main purpose is to describe a man who left his warm house to go down to the road "to see if I could help some." And when he found that he could, he stayed until he could help no more.

No, it wasn't Christmas, but the spirit that permeates this time of year for us appears to stay in his heart for all of the days of the year.

I've decided that when I die and go to heaven, he will be the first person I'll look up. If he is not there, I'll go out by the gate and wait.

He'll be along, sooner or later.

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Letters

Dear Santa,
I have tried my best to be good. Please bring me Hot Wheels Cybōro City.
Bailey Fletcher

Dear Santa,
I hope all the children that are poor gets a special Christmas gift from you. Guide your reindeers.
Love, Blair Schuemann

Dear Santa,
Please bring me a Rescue Heroes ship and 3 packs of PokéMan Cards.
Christopher Penton

Dear Santa,

I want a bike, bow-n-arrow, Power Ranger
Colors
Puppy
Skates
CD Player
Thank you, Noah Ahlers

Dear Santa,
I want a Rock-Em Sock-Em Robot for Christmas. I also want a go-cart, a Fake BB Gun, and a Transformig Cheetah that is what I want for Christmas. Santa Clause, please say hello to your Elves and reindeer for me please.
Corey Williams

Dear Santa,

Please bring me a new bike without training wheels.
Hopscotch doll
Barbie doll and radio games cloths
good surprises.
Love, Heather Purser

Dear Santa,
I want a Jeep play pen for my baby doll play stor. I want a baby cat.
Diamond Cornell

Dear Santa,
I want a game Cabe and a Box.
**Merry Christmas
from Blake Dykes**



Sitting in the midst of animal food and supplies and showing some of the Animal Shelter items collected by Our Lady Academy Campus Ministry. Council members are, from left, Rachel Wright, sophomore representative; Laura Ellis, sophomore and Council treasurer; Alicia Asper, junior representative; Colleen Bartholomew, senior representative; and Sarah Crowe, sophomore representative.

OLA participates in shelter drive

Our Lady Academy participated in the Fall 2001 Shelter Drive sponsored by the Friends of the Animal Shelter in Hancock County.

Organized by the OLA Campus Ministry Council, the OLA students brought in a pickup full of canned and dry cat

and dog food, cat litter, Pine-sol, all-purpose cleaners, laundry soap, dish soap, spray disinfectant, paper towels, and newspapers.

OLA '99 graduate Chevonne Daigre, representing the Friends of the Animal Shelter organization, presented the project to OLA and picked

up the donated items.

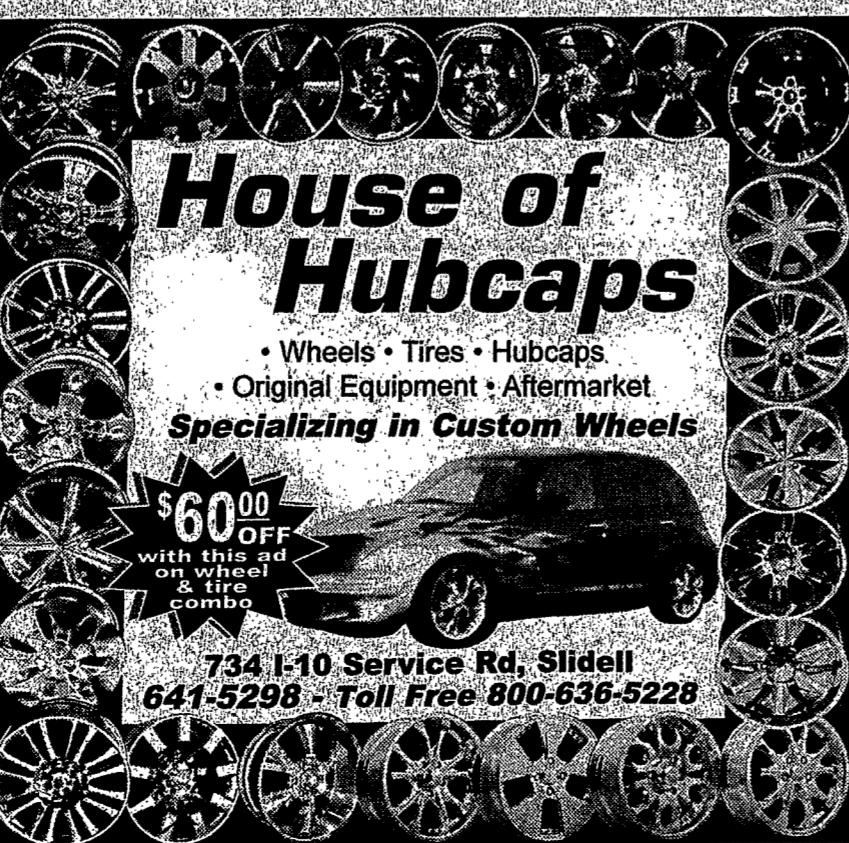
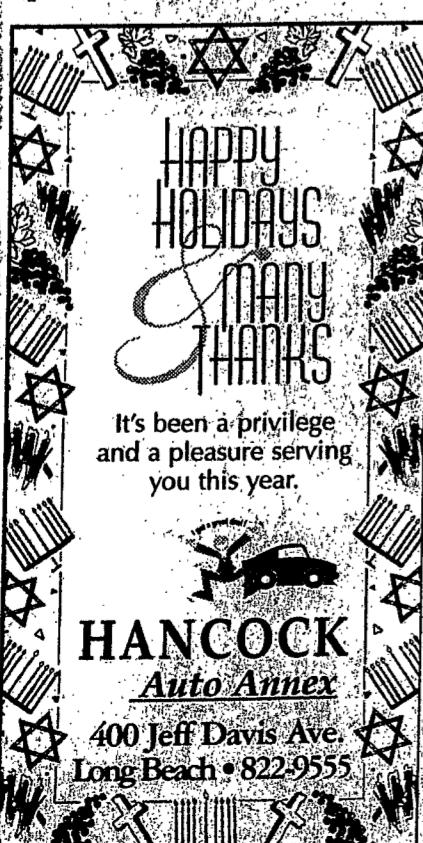
A competition among the classes at OLA resulted in the eighth grade winning a pizza lunch, to be given by Daigre and the Friends organization. The OLA eighth grade will also be given free student memberships in the Friends organization.

Holiday Deadlines

Classified and Retail Advertising deadlines
for the December 26, 2001 edition of the Sea Coast Echo Extra and the December 27, 2001 edition of the Sea Coast Echo is 5 p.m. Friday, December 21, 2001.

Deadlines for the January 2, 2002 edition of the Sea Coast Echo Extra and the January 3, 2002 edition of the Sea Coast Echo is 5 p.m. Friday, December 28, 2001.

The Sea Coast Echo offices will be closed Monday and Tuesday, December 24 and 25, 2001 and Monday and Tuesday, December 31, 2001 and January 1, 2002.



The Sea Coast Echo
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Second Street Elem. Honor Roll announced

FIRST NINE WEEKS

FOURTH GRADE

Alpha: Brianna Anthony, Steven Baudin, Timothy Brister, Chad Broadhead, Allison Calhoun, Anthony Cardinale, Aulta Chasez, Rodney Chowning, Carissa Coffey, Brittany Colson, Ashley Cucurullo, Lyndi Cuevas, Rainee Davis, Brittany Dougherty, Jody Favre, Savanna Ganacheau, Zachary George, Rosemary Gooding, Megan Harris, Colby Huff, Jasmine Jones, Shelby Knowles, Meggie LaFontaine, Chelsea Levy, Keiondra Lewis, Kristian Lyons, Loretta Marion, John Mirandy, Brandon Mitchell, Stephanie Myrick, Devon Narcisse, Danica Patterson, Cynthia Prevou, Nikole Radtke, Samantha Rehm, Chelsea Schoonmaker, Victoria Smith, Caitlyn Spell, Christopher Strong, Ernest Taylor, Michael Taylor, Sam Tenney, Ashleigh Torres, Gabrielle Witcomb, Chance Woodmansee.

Beta: Jordan Banashak, Michael Binet, Dakota Caldwell, Megan Chatman, William Chisholm, Vincent Claudel, Donald James Drummond, Brandon Dvorak, Skyler Favre, Brittany Feigel, Glenn Fisher, Harold Fontenot, Kimberly Gibson, Christopher Hair, Lionel Haynes, Britney Johnson, Demitry Johnson, Quinton Johnson, Tyler Jordon, Kaylee Karl, Hayden Ladner, Joshua Ladner, Katheline Lam, Nicholas Lambeth, Damien

Lewis, Brandon Miller, Nicole Pepperman, Bailey Pernicaro, Craig Perry, Jordan Pursley, Cody Royal, Elizabeth Schreer, I'Esha Smith, Tori Szablewski, Elizabeth Tenney, Natalie Thompson, Justin Thornton, Clara Valle, Michael Wieland, Pansey Wilcox, Makesi Willis, Jarrod Wilson, Brett Womack.

FIFTH GRADE

Alpha: Shey Bean Mallory, Blaize Alyssia Bobbitt, Christine Bounds, Shelby Bounds, Cherokee Buras, Harold Cann, Kayla Cardwell, Brandon Carver, Stephen Cox, Sean Denny, Macy Dowden, Edward Elizondo, Deshaina Farve, Ashley Francis, Stephen Gieseler, Breanna Goff, Ian Gorlin, Chloe Harvill, Jordan Heintz-Black, Kendrick Hinton, Christina Johnson, Allen Jones, Joseph Keim, Edward Knowles, Sidney Laughlin, Kyle Lowry, Orlando Lyons, Brittany Massengill, Courtney Monti, Phillippe Moore, Brooke

Moran, Cassandra Myers, Paige Ruff, Julia Scafidi, Clarence Sheppard, Jamie Sherman, James Smith, Karl Smith, Sarah Solleberger, Mimi Ta, Lance Tomasich, Allan Villalta, Hope Valley, Leann Williams, Phil Williams, Karen Yan, Veronica Zingarelli.

Beta: Ashley Anderson, Matthew Anderson, David Bare, Austin Bell, Ivana Booker, Sherell Brignac, Donna Compton, Elizabeth Davis, Elexis Dorsey, Zach Fayard,

Hilco Garcia, Danielle Gladney, Ashley Guerrero, Edwin Gyins, Gabrille Harlow, Joshua Hawkins, Demetrius Jones, Dominique Jones, Tori Kinard, Hillary Ladner, Jack Ly, Chris Marchetta, Britney Maurigi, Patrick Prendergast, Alex Proulx, Miranda Roberts, Nickole Rogeau, Hannah Spence, Tyler Suria, Khiry Thomas, Tyler Torgerson, George Trotter, Farren Washington, Kelly Whitman.

Space Center sponsors area schools in robotics competition

NASA's John C. Stennis Space Center, a strong supporter of the annual For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology (FIRST) Robotics Competition, will support six Mississippi teams and one Louisiana team in this year's competition. The FIRST program, founded by world-renowned scientist and inventor Dean Kamen, is meant to inspire students to explore science and technology fields.

NASA, which sponsored more

FIRST teams in the 2001 competition than any other business or organization, will assist this year's teams in building their robots for the 2002 event.

Teams receiving support from Stennis this year are

Choctaw Central High School in

Philadelphia; Piney Woods

School and Provine High

School, both located in Jackson;

Picayune High School; Warren

Central High School in

Vicksburg; Gulfport High

School; and Pearl River High

School in Pearl River, La.

Stennis offers grants to qualifying teams for their first two years of competition, and then offers mentorship and advice. When teams are designing and constructing their robots, students work side-by-side with Stennis scientists and engineers.

"FIRST is a valuable tool for students, teaching them not only science and engineering, but teamwork and problem-solving skills. NASA's Office of Education at Stennis wants to expose as many students as possible to FIRST."

"By offering grants to schools

for two years, we are able to get

those schools started and build

community support for their

team. We can then work with

other schools and introduce

them to the program," Wanda DeMaggio, pre-college/technology officer for the NASA Office of Education, at Stennis said.

Past Stennis teams have

competed successfully in this

program. The Gulfport team

won first-place recognition and

the Rookie of the Year Award in

2000 and earned second-place

honors in 2001.

Warren Central placed in the

finals in 2001 regional competi-

tion, and the team from

Choctaw Central High School

won a special Judge's Award in

2001.

Six of the Stennis-sponsored

teams will travel to Houston,

Texas, this spring for the Lone

Star Regional Competition.

Provine High School's team will

travel to regional competition in

St. Louis, Mo. Teams may have

the option to attend the national

competition in Orlando, Fla.

For more information about

Stennis' involvement in the

FIRST Robotics program, contact

Stennis Space Center

Office of Education, Pre-

College/Technology Officer,

Wanda DeMaggio at 228-688-

2091.

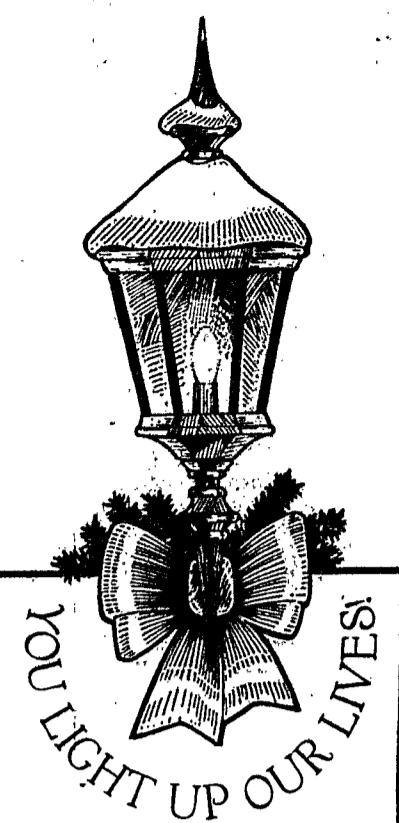
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Advertising is an investment in the success of your business. Every business has some kind of competition, either within the town, nearby city or from mail order firms. Your potential customers are being courted by your competitors. If you do not invite those customers to do business with you, they are likely to forget you and buy elsewhere. It is not uncommon for consumers to switch their trading from one store to another. Advertising helps to keep old customers and equally as important, make new ones.

Our community is constantly growing which means that potential customers are moving into the market area all the time. Advertising gives these newcomers a reason to visit your store.

Most businesses budget for their advertising expenses just as they do for other necessities such as rent, phones, etc. Smart business people realize that advertising is imperative to keep their business growing.

Another reason to advertise is that advertising is news! You profit by telling our readers what is new in your store. Through advertising, you can let a wide audience know the product lines you carry, the quality of your merchandise, the completeness of your service and the character of your store.

If you have something to sell, then you have something to advertise. When you have nothing to advertise, you are out of business. Advertising is designed to build your business and works best when it is repeated regularly. Consistent advertising pays off!

Now that you know some of the reasons to advertise, you're probably wondering how you can advertise most effectively. Surveys show that ads in local newspapers have more impact than in any other medium. The Sea Coast Echo goes into the majority of the homes in Hancock County. The Sea Coast Echo is full of interesting reading, it is a part of our community. People like to read about people and The Sea Coast Echo is full of pictures and stories about local people. The most important reason to advertise in The Sea Coast Echo is that our readers are your customers.

If you're looking for the best advertising value for your money, then you should contact the advertising department at The Sea Coast Echo. One of our advertising representatives will be happy to discuss the many advertising options offered by The Sea Coast Echo. For more information you may call 467-5474, Monday through Friday 8am to 5pm, or stop by our office at 124 Court Street, Bay St. Louis.

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Facts About The BIBLE

BY JOHN LEHTI

FOOD, SHELTER, AND CLOTHING—ALL FROM THE GOAT!

IN BIBLICAL TIMES, THE GOAT WAS PROBABLY THE MOST PRIZED ANIMAL OF ALL CATTLE, ESPECIALLY IN THE ROCKY HILLS OF JUDEA, WHERE VEGETATION WAS SCARCE. THE GOAT COULD THRIVE IN SPARSE AREAS LIKE THIS, WHERE OTHER ANIMALS WOULD FAIL. AS A VERY IMPORTANT ITEM IN THE PEOPLE'S ECONOMY, THE GOAT'S HAIR WAS SPUN INTO FABRICS FOR CLOTHING AND WOVEN INTO STURDY STRIPS TO MAKE TENTS IN WHICH THEY LIVED. THE DURABLE GOATSKIN MADE A FINE LEATHER. INDEED, THE FAMED LEATHER OF MOROCCO, TO THIS DAY, IS MADE FROM GOATSKIN! AND FOR FOOD—GOAT'S MILK SOURED AND COOKED, WAS ALWAYS USED. THE KIND OF LUXURY ONE OFFERED TO HONORED GUESTS, IN FACT, IT STILL IS! MILKING A GOAT WAS ALWAYS DONE DIRECTLY FROM THE REAR AND THIS METHOD IS STILL USED IN ASIA MINOR AND NORTH AFRICA TODAY....



...WHEN THE PATRIARCHS, SUCH AS ABRAHAM AND JACOB, SPOKE OF THE FATNESS OF THEIR HERDS, ALTHOUGH THEY ALSO HAD SHEEP, CAMELS, AND ASSES, YOU CAN BE SURE THEIR HERDS NUMBERED MANY MORE GOATS THAN ANY OTHER ANIMAL!

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John Delisle Rd. • 255-3255

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First Baptist

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AREA DEVOTIONAL & DIRECTORY PAGES

REFLECTIONS
ON LIFEBy Father Jerome
LeDoux, SVD

Do not be ruled by SAD

It is that time of year again, the winter of discontent when light is scarcest because days are shortest, and a chilly gloom settles upon many people.

Sure, there are many who love the cold of winter along with ice and snow, but SAD afflicts numerous souls who have no idea what's wrong with them.

Seasonal Affective Disorder (SAD) is a condition resulting from the big decrease in light during the sunshine-poor wintery months.

A dark cloud of depression settles disturbingly upon many individuals, and particularly in sections of the country where fog and overcast are prevalent.

It has been observed for many decades that gloomy, foggy, chilly, overcast, stormy climates are conducive to depression, drinking and increased instances of suicidal feelings and attempts.

Not coincidentally, darkness and coldness come together, bringing colds, flu and a raft of illnesses.

As much as people complain about the blazing heat of summer, our bodies are most disease-proof when the weather is hottest, and when there is the most light to flood our consciousness and our whole world of living.

Not surprisingly, light therapy works to a great extent for the unfortunate lot of people subject to SAD. Yes, light therapy entails exposing an afflicted person to bright light at least 30 minutes a day. If we cannot have the benefits of summer, at least we can have part of the brilliant light of summer.

By this time, you are thinking ahead of me, observing that SAD brought on by light deprivation may very well be the least of the problems most people encounter at this time of the year. Put differently, SAD compounds the usual causes of depression and sadness associated with the holidays.

And you are right. The so-called Holiday Blues or Anniversary Syndrome, which return like clockwork each year as Thanksgiving Day draws near, and linger until the New Year is well on its way, wreak havoc with what appears to be a clear majority of folks around the U.S. and the world.

Virtually unknown to children, who look forward to Christmas and the holidays as the most magical and joyful time of the year, the Anniversary Syndrome comes with growing older and gradually losing one's oldest relatives and friends. Naturally, the losses increase with each passing year.

If that were not enough, 911 has bulled its way into the burdensome scene of the Holiday Blues, dragging the entire country down to new lows in many different ways. Much ink has been spilled over this, and the airwaves have been singed with memorials, testimonies, piping and keening.

Innumerable people within and without the media have pointed out the huge benefits which have accrued to us from the great tragedy of 911.

So great are the positives coming out of this cruel disaster that we may liken it to the immortal words of St. Augustine about the gift of Jesus to the world:

"Oh happy fault, oh blessed sin of Adam, which merited such a Redeemer!"

The awakening of sleepy America and of the entire world, the unification of Americans among themselves and then with the whole world, the heightened awareness and sensitivity of Americans to their own families and to their fellow citizens, heartfelt gratitude to God for all whom we have and for all that we have in this country is somehow worth the awful price we paid.

Those most directly afflicted by 911—the survivors and the victims' families, are still paying that awful price and will be for the rest of their lives. We lift them up in prayer and fellowship in God.

Their terrible sacrifice has been the direct cause of our finally waking up to reality, to God, to each other.

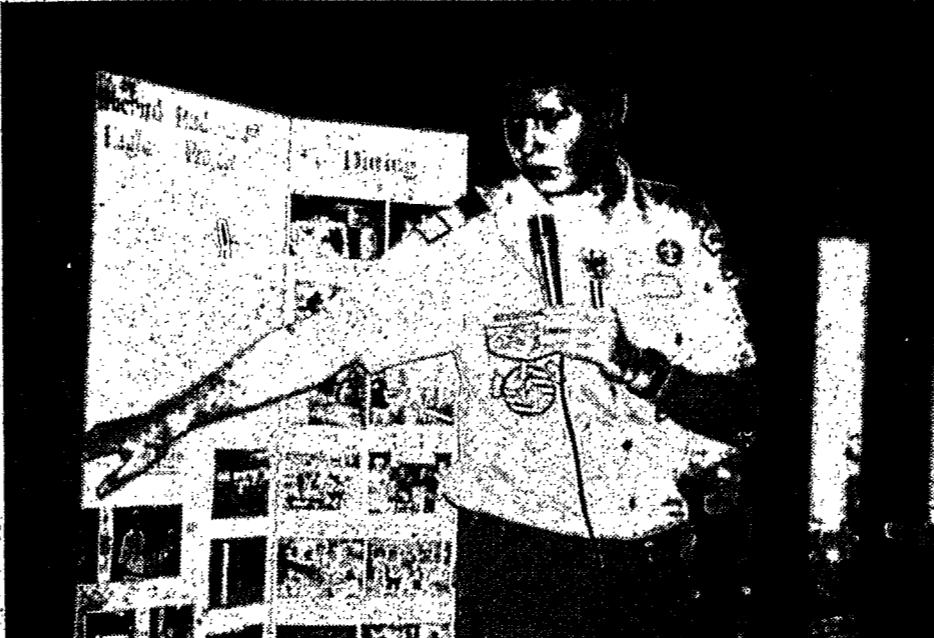
In effect, 911 has stripped Christmas down to its ultimate reality.

Every other human being is born to live until a natural death. Only one, Jesus, was born to die. In the session of the Sanhedrin after Jesus had raised Lazarus from the dead, Caiaphas the high priest put the finger of death on Jesus.

You know nothing, nor do you consider that it is better for you that one man should die instead of the people, so that the whole nation may not perish. So from that day on they planned to kill him" (John 11:49, 50, 53).

The unromanticized, heart-rending, sad scoop of Christmas is that the Maker of the universe chose to abandon his status as God (Philippians 2:6), donning our nature as slaves, being born into a hostile, uncaring world.

Whether we have to deal with SAD, with the Anniversary Syndrome, with the holiday blues or with the compound problems of 911, the overwhelming presence and power of Emmanuel lift us above anything and everything bad.



Aspiring Eagle Scout

Thomas Q. Donaldson VI, Troop 210, Waveland, is completing his requirements for Eagle Scout. In conjunction with Lella Thissel, Diamondhead Garden Club bird chairman, he has undertaken care of bluebird boxes along the golf courses as his project. He built 15 new boxes and refurbished six others this summer. In addition, he and his family have helped to monitor the boxes, cleaning out old nests. He presented details of the project at the Sept. 19 meeting of the Diamondhead Garden Club. Thomas is the son of Rear Admiral and Mrs. Thomas Q. Donaldson V.

Scripture says . . .

BY ED YOUNG

God is crazy about you, He just is. If He had a heavenly mantle, your picture would be on it. He would carry in his heavenly wallet a picture of you that he would show every day to the 24 elders who sit around the throne. He's just crazy about you.

The day you leave this life for the next, standing at the heavenly gate will be Jesus with open arms and a big smile on his face.

He will take you by the hand and lead you to God's throne, and along the way people that you know will be cheering and

applauding you. And when your heavenly Father sees you, He will give you two thumbs up. He's just crazy about you. You noticed when Jesus took your hand, that you felt coarse scars in his palm. Without a word said, Jesus looked at you and you at him, and it was all very clear: He made all of this possible. (Isaiah 53)

Walk with Him in this life, and you will walk with Him in the next. Draw nearer to God and He will draw nearer to you. (James 4: 8) God's crazy about you, He just is.

The "Word" for the Week

'Resolve to see the Lord'

Dennis J. Prutow • Box 303, Sterling, KS 67579

The nation was divided. Priests in the north, Israel, joined their friends in the south, Judah. They went together to the temple in Jerusalem to worship.

"Those from all the tribes of Israel who set their hearts on seeking the Lord God of Israel followed them to Jerusalem, to sacrifice to the Lord God of their fathers" (2 Chronicles 11:16).

The Lord is God. In the New Testament the Lord God is Jesus Christ (Romans 10:9).

To seek Him means looking to Him with Bible reading and prayer.

Seeking the Lord means regularly joining God's people for worship and praise. It means joining in corporate prayer and listening to the public reading and exposition of the Bible.

Seeking the Lord means forsak-

ing things God finds distasteful (Isaiah 51:1). Seeking the Lord means trusting in the sacrifice of Jesus Christ as the only adequate payment for sins (Isaiah 55:6).

To set your heart to seek the Lord means you are genuinely inclined to seek God through Jesus Christ. You do not hesitate (1 Kings 18:21).

You are not double-minded (Psalm 119:113). You understand the promise, "Draw near to God and He will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners; and purify your hearts, you double-minded" (James 4:8).

Here is a New Year's resolution worthy of the name. Set your heart to seek the Lord.

To hear more on the same topic, call toll free for the mini-message of the week, 1-800-777-0389 or visit www.sterlingpulpit.org.

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Facts About The BIBLE

BY JOHN LEHTI

FOOD, SHELTER, AND CLOTHING—ALL FROM THE GOAT!

IN BIBLICAL TIMES, THE GOAT WAS PROBABLY THE MOST PRIZED ANIMAL OF ALL CATTLE, ESPECIALLY IN THE ROCKY HILLS OF JUDEA, WHERE VEGETATION WAS SCARCE. THE GOAT COULD THRIVE IN SPARSE AREAS LIKE THIS, WHERE OTHER ANIMALS WOULD FAIL. AS A VERY IMPORTANT ITEM IN THE PEOPLE'S ECONOMY, THE GOAT'S HAIR WAS SPUN INTO FABRICS FOR CLOTHING, AND WOVEN INTO STURDY STRIPS TO MAKE TENTS IN WHICH THEY LIVED. THE DURABLE GOATSKIN MADE A FINE LEATHER. INDEED, THE FAMED LEATHER OF MOROCCO, TO THIS DAY, IS MADE FROM GOATSKIN! AND FOR FOOD—GOAT'S MILK, SOURCED AND COOL, WAS ALWAYS THE KIND OF LUXURY ONE OFFERED TO HONORED GUESTS, IN FACT, IT STILL IS! MILKING A GOAT WAS ALWAYS DONE DIRECTLY FROM THE REAR AND THIS METHOD IS STILL USED IN ASIA MINOR AND NORTH AFRICA TODAY....



...WHEN THE PATRIARCHS ABRAHAM AND JACOB, SPOKE OF THE PATIENCE OF GOD, ALTHOUGH THEY ALSO HAD SINNED AGAINST HIM, YOU CAN BE SURE THEIR HERD HAD MORE GOATS THAN ANY OTHER ANIMAL.

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REFLECTIONS
ON LIFEBy Father Jerome
LeDoux, SVD

Do not be ruled by SAD

It is that time of year again; the winter of discontent when light is scarcest because days are shortest, and a chilly gloom settles upon many people.

Sure, there are many who love the cold of winter along with ice and snow, but SAD afflicts numerous souls who have no idea what's wrong with them.

Seasonal Affective Disorder (SAD) is a condition resulting from the big decrease in light during the sunshine-poor wintry months.

A dark cloud of depression settles disturbingly upon many individuals.

As if that were not enough, 911 has bulled its way into the burdensome scene of the Holiday Blues, dragging the entire country down to new lows in many different ways. Much ink has been spilled over this, and the airwaves have been singed with memorials, testimonies, pining and keening.

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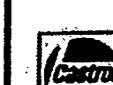
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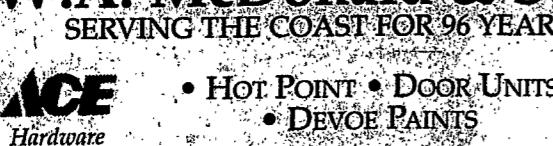
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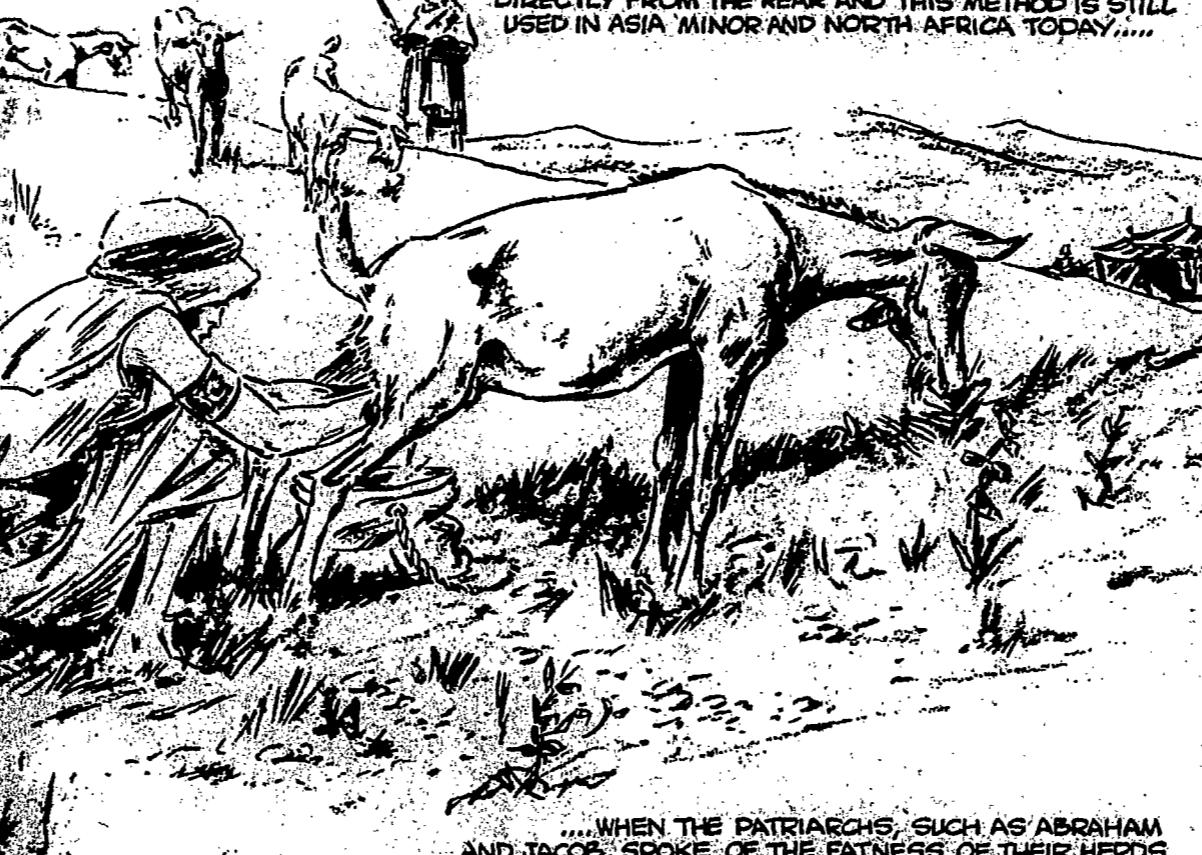
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Facts About The BIBLE BY JOHN LEHTI

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...WHEN THE PATRIARCHS, SUCH AS ABRAHAM AND JACOB, SPOKE OF THE FATNESS OF THEIR HERDS, ALTHOUGH THEY ALSO HAD SHEEP, CAMELS, AND ASSES, YOU CAN BE SURE THEIR HERDS NUMBERED MANY MORE GOATS THAN ANY OTHER ANIMAL!

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AREA DEVOTIONAL & DIRECTORY PAGES

REFLECTIONS
ON LIFEBy Father Jerome
LeDoux, SVD

Do not be ruled by SAD

It is that time of year again, the winter of discontent when light is scarce because days are shortest, and a chilly gloom settles upon many people.

Sure, there are many who love the cold of winter along with ice and snow, but SAD afflicts numerous souls who have no idea what's wrong with them.

Seasonal Affective Disorder (SAD) is a condition resulting from the big decrease in light during the sunshine-poor wintery months.

A dark cloud of depression settles disturbingly upon many individuals, and particularly in sections of the country where fog and overcast are prevalent.

It has been observed for many decades that gloomy, foggy, chilly, overcast, stormy climates are conducive to depression, drinking and increased instances of suicidal feelings and attempts.

Not coincidentally, darkness and coldness come together, bringing colds, flu and a raft of illnesses.

As much as people complain about the blazing heat of summer, our bodies are most disease-proof when the weather is hottest, and when there is the most light to flood our consciousness and our whole world of living.

Not surprisingly, light therapy works to a great extent for the unfortunate lot of people subject to SAD. Yes, light therapy entails exposing an afflicted person to bright light at least 30 minutes a day. If we cannot have the benefits of summer, at least we can have part of the brilliant light of summer.

By this time, you are thinking ahead of me, observing that SAD brought on by light deprivation may very well be the least of the problems most people encounter at this time of the year. Put differently, SAD compounds the usual causes of depression and sadness associated with the holidays.

And you are right. The so-called Holiday Blues or Anniversary Syndrome, which return like clockwork each year as Thanksgiving Day draws near, and linger until the New Year is well on its way, wreak havoc with what appears to be a clear majority of folks around the U.S. and the world.

Virtually unknown to children, who look forward to Christmas and the holidays as the most magical and joyful time of the year, the Anniversary Syndrome comes with growing older and gradually losing one's oldest relatives and friends. Naturally, the losses increase with each passing year.

As if that were not enough, 911 has bulled its way into the burdensome scene of the Holiday Blues, dragging the entire country down to new lows in many different ways. Much ink has been spilled over this, and the airwaves have been singed with memorials, testimonials, pining and keening.

Innumerable people within and without the media have pointed out the huge benefits which have accrued to us from the great tragedy of 911.

So great are the positives coming out of this cruel disaster that we may liken it to the immortal words of St. Augustine about the gift of Jesus to the world:

"Oh happy fault, oh blessed sin of Adam, which merited such a Redeemer!"

The awakening of sleepy America and of the entire world, the unification of Americans among themselves and then with the whole world, the heightened awareness and sensitivity of Americans to their own families and to their fellow citizens, heartfelt gratitude to God for all whom we have and for all that we have in this country is somehow worth the awful price we paid.

Those most directly afflicted by 911, the survivors and the victims' families, are still paying that awful price and will be for the rest of their lives. We lift them up in prayer and fellowship in God.

Their terrible sacrifice has been the direct cause of our finally waking up to reality, to God, to each other.

In effect, 911 has stripped Christmas down to its ultimate reality.

Every other human being is born to live until a natural death. Only one, Jesus, was born to die. In the session of the Sanhedrin after Jesus had raised Lazarus from the dead, Caiphas the high priest put the finger of death on Jesus.

"You know nothing, nor do you consider that it is better for you that one man should die instead of the people, so that the whole nation may not perish. So from that day on they planned to kill him" (John 11:49, 50, 53).

The unromanticized, heart-rending, sad scoop of Christmas is that the Maker of the universe chose to abandon his status as God (Philippians 2:6), donning our nature as slaves, being born into a hostile, uncaring world.

Whether we have to deal with SAD, with the Anniversary Syndrome, with the holiday blues or with the compound problems of 911, the overwhelming presence and power of Emmanuel lift us above anything and everything bad.



Aspiring Eagle Scout

Thomas Q. Donaldson VI, Troop 210, Waveland, is completing his requirements for Eagle Scout. In conjunction with Lella Thissel, Diamondhead Garden Club bird chairman, he has undertaken care of bluebird boxes along the golf courses as his project. He built 15 new boxes and refurbished six others this summer. In addition, he and his family have helped to monitor the boxes, cleaning out old nests. He presented details of the project at the Sept. 19 meeting of the Diamondhead Garden Club. Thomas is the son of Rear Admiral and Mrs. Thomas Q. Donaldson V.

Scripture says . . .

BY ED YOUNG

God is crazy about you. He just is. If He had a heavenly mantle, your picture would be on it. He would carry in his heavenly wallet a picture of you that he would show every day to the 24 elders who sit around the throne. He's just crazy about you.

The day you leave this life, for the next, standing at the heavenly gate will be Jesus with open arms and a big smile on his face.

He will take you by the hand and lead you to God's throne, and along the way people that you know will be cheering and

applauding you.

And when your heavenly Father sees you, He will give you two thumbs up. He's just crazy about you. You noticed when Jesus took your hand, that you felt coarse scars in his palm. Without a word said, Jesus looked at you and you at him, and it was all very clear. He made all of this possible. (Isaiah 53)

Walk with Him in this life, and you will walk with Him in the next. Draw nearer to God and He will draw nearer to you. (James 4: 8)

God's crazy about you, He just is.

The "Word" for the Week

'Resolve to see the Lord'

Dennis J. Prutow • Box 303, Sterling, KS 67579

The nation was divided. Priests in the north, Israel, joined their friends in the south, Judah. They went together to the temple in Jerusalem to worship.

"Those from all the tribes of Israel who set their hearts on seeking the Lord God of Israel followed them to Jerusalem, to sacrifice to the Lord God of their fathers" (2 Chronicles 11:16).

The Lord is God. In the New Testament the Lord God is Jesus Christ (Romans 10:9).

To seek Him means looking to Him with Bible reading and prayer.

Seeking the Lord means regularly joining God's people for worship and praise. It means joining in corporate prayer and listening to the public reading and exposition of the Bible.

Seeking the Lord means forsak-

ing things. God finds distasteful (Isaiah 51:1). Seeking the Lord means trusting in the sacrifice of Jesus Christ as the only adequate payment for sins (Isaiah 55:6).

To set your heart to seek the Lord means you are genuinely inclined to seek God through Jesus Christ. You do not hesitate (1 Kings 18:21).

You are not double-minded (Psalm 119:113). You understand the promise, "Draw near to God and He will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners; and purify your hearts, you double-minded" (James 4:8).

Here is a New Year's resolution worthy of the name. Set your heart to seek the Lord.

To hear more on the same topic, call toll free for the "mini-message of the week," 1-800-777-0389, or visit www.sterlingpulpit.org.

St. Ann-St. John Church News

Father John Kelly, pastor
Phone: 228-467-4745Monday-Thursday-Friday, p.m.
8:30 a.m. Wednesday, 6:30 p.m.

Visitors are welcome.

Mass Schedule:
St. Ann Catholic Church,
Lower Bay Road, Saturday

Vigil Mass, 4 p.m.

Sunday masses: St. John

Catholic Church, Lakeshore

Road, mass at 8 a.m., St. Ann,

10:30 a.m.

Weekday masses (St. Ann):

Jan. 8 Confirmation class resumes at 6:45 p.m.

All classes held in the school building.

Holiday Schedule:

Dec. 24: Children's Christmas Vigil Mass, 4 p.m., St. Ann's

Jan. 1: New Year's Mass, 9 a.m., St. John's

Dec. 24: Christmas Vigil Mass, 6 p.m., St. John's

Dec. 25: Christmas Mass, 8 a.m., St. John's

Dec. 25: Christmas Mass, 10:30 a.m., St. Ann's

Dec. 31: New Year Vigil Mass, 4 p.m., St. Ann's

Jan. 1: New Year's Mass, 9 a.m., St. John's

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Grade 8: Allard, Annette; DeRussy, Bernadette; Franke, Ruth; Goodfellow, Samantha; Greer, Samantha; Hadden, Molly; Kergosien, Laura; O'Brien, Colleen

Grade 9: Benvenuti, Laurie; Bratton, Christine; Gleber, Christy; Kergosien, Elissa; Sison, Therese; Szczeczkowski, Krystyna

Grade 10: Bradley, Anne; Breen, Katie; Calamusa, Teddi; Crowe, Sarah; Ladner, Miriam; Mixon, Candace; Monti, Amanda

Grade 11: Asper, Alicia; Fortenberry, Jennifer; Herber, Jacqueline; Lady, Michelle; Looney, Katy; Milner, Katherine; Reboul, Julie; Timidaski, Ashley

Grade 12: Chapoton, Melissa
Alpha Honor Roll
(3.5-4.0 Grade Point
Average)

Grade 7: Barnes, Ramie; Cameron, Kree; Chevis, Sydney; Crowder, Carolan; Fournier, Brittany; Gast, Lauren; Kergosien, Erin; Klein, Courtney; Ladner, Morgan; Loftus, Madeline; Raymond, Lacey; Walter, Alyssa

Grade 8: Abraham, Kristen; Casey, Margaret; Cuevas, Rachel; Guichet, Katherine; Haas, Caroline; Hoff, Emily; Lyons, Whitney; Pittari, Tonie; Robinson, Megan; Stechmann, Emily; Stefano, Jordyn; Tucker, Ruth

Grade 9: Asper, Jennifer; Cameron, Kolbi; Corr, Kathryn; Dane, Margaret; Funk, Elizabeth; Harshbarger, Nikki; Jones, Jordan; Passman, Melissa; Pouriraji, Katherine; Ranelli, Andrea; Walsh, Bretta

Grade 10: Aldredge, Virginia; Coscia, Jory; Cranford, Rachel; Goulet, Lauren; McIntyre, Katherine; McNally, Jennifer

Stanislaus hosts third 'Caroling in the Plaza'

St. Stanislaus hosted its third annual Caroling in the Plaza Dec. 5 in the Diboll Plaza on the SSC campus, according to Brother Ronald Hingle, SC, principal.

The seasonal event was sponsored by the St. Stanislaus Activities Department and began with a welcome and opening prayer by Brother Ronald Hingle.

The Christmas Pageant, a live re-telling of the Christmas story by the SSC Drama Department, served as the focus for the evening.

The players included Danny Alario, Isaac Blach, Brady Bordelon, David Bradley, Katie Breen, David Cruthirds, Preston Ellis, Mimsie Ladner, Michael Roy, Billy Sherman, Erin Stechman, Paul Thibodeaux, and Jennifer Torgeson. The SSC Drama Department is moderated by Mrs. Terry Carr.

Scriptures were read by Bob Bass, Preston Ellis, James Fulford, Brian Landry, Allen Leone, Brice Monu, and Spencer Ziegler.

Student Council and Key Club members assisted in setting up for the event, distributing candles and programs, and serving refreshments following the program.

The carols were led by Jordan Roy, academic assistant principal, and Edward Duhon, director of Campus Ministry. Music was provided by John Barrilleaux, SSC music director.

The sound system was organized by Brother Joseph Donovan, senior prefect. The program and flyers were produced by Brother Charles Schilling, director of publications.

Susan Estrade, assistant principal for supervision and activities, closed the program and invited students, parents, and guests who attended to gather in the Student Mall for hot chocolate and cookies.

Vada; Nelson, Heather; Schade, Courtney; Stechmann, Erin
Grade 11: Adam, Clare; Adams, Jennifer; Bordelon, Brady; Dedeaux, Devra; Goudeau, Jamie; Holt, Katherine; Kirby, Colleen; Ladner, Laurie; Loftus, Demarest, Casey; Jennifer; McDonald, Nicole; Moran, Kate; Sramek, Amanda; **Grade 12:** Bartholomew, Rittiner, Margaret; Colleen; Benvenuti, Erica; Kathryn; Ticer, April; Williams,

Kenny, Michelle; Natalie; Negrotto, Romain, Renee

Beta Honor Roll
(3.0-3.4 Grade Point
Average)

Grade 7: Allen, Stephanie; Lewis, Virginia; Li, Mary; Loiacano, Sarah; Morgan; Hunt, Kimberly; Perry, Clarissa; Walton, Megan

Grade 8: Hamm, Aubrey; Hoda, Nicole; Keel, Abigail; Shambly, O'Connor, Amanda; Slonaker, Catherine; Werner, Rebecca

Grade 9: Besancon, Devin

Mitchell, Shawn; Smith, Margaret

Grade 10: Balentine, Katherine; Church, Whitney; Gannon, Adrienne; Gilmore, Carver, Emma; Davis, Robyn; Dugas, Ashleigh; Eagan, Karen; Forte, Lauren; LaFrance, Leanne; Renz, Lauren; Kaylee; Smith, Courtney; Forte, Lauren; Karen; LaFrance, Leanne; Lewis, Elisabeth; Reaver, Kira; Torgeson, Jennifer

Grade 11: Donlin, Rachel; Egan, Rachael; Gamard, Allyson; Johnson, Ashton; Perez, Lillian; Reinel, Amy; Zimmerman, Rachael

Grade 12: Allen, Grace; Caridad, Sarah; Covington, Camille; Dreikorn, Desiree; Geiger, Kristine; Harshbarger, Kara; Johnson, Ashton; Perez, Lillian; Reinel, Amy; Zimmerman, Rachael

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NO TIME TO CLEAN HOUSE OR OFFICE? Call Leann. Excellent references, reasonable rates. 228-463-0489. If no answer, leave message.

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PSYCHIC READINGS BY ANNA. ADVICE in all areas. Are you in doubt? Unhappy in love. Marriage or family affairs? 466-0483. Hwy 603 2 miles North of Hwy. 90.

SACKETT'S ELECTRICAL SERVICE: Licensed Bonded & Insured. Residential, Commercial, & Industrial. Weekends & Evenings 467-4955.

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WASH GRAVEL \$14.50/PER YARD; pea gravel \$10.50/per yard; limestone \$23.50/pea yard; fill dirt \$4.25/pea yard; topsoil \$10.00/pea yard; fill sand \$5.00/pea yard, etc. 493-3358 and 255-1106.

WE CUT, CLIMB AND PRUNE TREES, haul debris, haul fill, spread dirt, cut grass and clean yards. We do bulkheads and boat houses. 463-9075.

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WATER WASHING: \$14.50/PER YARD; pea gravel \$10.50/pea yard; limestone \$23.50/pea yard; fill dirt \$4.25/pea yard; topsoil \$10.00/pea yard; fill sand \$5.00/pea yard, etc. 493-3358 and 255-1106.

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136 Automobiles

NOTICE OF ABANDONED VEHICLES
The following vehicles will be sold 30 days after the first publication:1987 Acura Integra Gray
VIN# JH4DA353HS017395
Tag# YK-6621988 Isuzu Trooper White
VIN# JACCH58R8K892666
Tag# 334-FND1987 Pontiac 6000 Burgundy
VIN# 2G2AF5LROH9236683
Tag# RCC-1961980 Ford F150 White
VIN# F15GUHG24341987 Lincoln Town Car Black
VIN# 1LNMB82F3HY6685121990 Plymouth Voyager Blue
VIN# 1P4FH44R5LX30630BULLDOG TOWING, INC
9028 LADNER STREET
BAY ST. LOUIS, MS 39520
228-467-3287

12/23, 12/27, 12/30/2001

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APT. FOR RENT. \$435 A MONTH. \$435 Security Deposit. 467-9278.

BEAUTIFUL, SAFE LARGE 2 BEDROOM APT. with wrap around porch in wooded area. 502 Sunset, BSL. \$495 month plus deposit. 467-5262.

CAPTAINS QUARTER-LUXURY FURNISH NAPT. 1 bed 1 bath. Block to beach/Old town Bay St. Louis. All inclusive. \$65.00/night. \$275/week. \$600/month. Pet, smoke-free. Visa/Mastercard Sallish Realty. 466-9947.

CHARMING 1 AND 2 BEDROOM APTS. Near beach. 467-6742.

DUPLEX APT. ON WAVELAND AVE. \$500.00 per month. Call Chari @ Century 21 McIntrye-Rapp. 467-3777.

FOR RENT IN WAVELAND ONE BEDROOM furnished apartment, near beach. \$250 deposit \$400/month or 125 week. Beeper 463-4584.

GREAT MOVE IN SPECIAL!! SIGNATURE Lake Apartments. 1s from \$405, 2s from \$425, 3s from \$535. Call 452-9901.

LARGE NICE 1 BEDROOM COTTAGE near Casino Magic. Boat dock, pool, \$75.00 month. 467-5628.

OAK PARK APARTMENTS: 2 BR, \$450 month, 1 month free, 10% discount for seniors and military. 467-6882.

STUDIO APT. WITH MICROWAVE, TV, Private bath, and extras. \$400 month, 903 Spanish Acres Dr. BSL.

WOW!! \$500 MONTH. INCLUDES ALL utilities. Furnished 1 Brm. No deposit/short lease, 2 locations: Ocean Springs: 228-875-0123, Bay St. Louis: 228-466-5251.

148 Mobile Homes For Rent

28R/1BA TRAILER FOR RENT, In the Klin's free environment. 2105-9397.

3BR/2BA, NEW STOVE, REFRIGERATOR, fenced yard, new carpet, storage shed. Very nice. 228-467-4992.

TRAILER FOR RENT WITH FENCED Yard. \$425, month. \$425 Security deposit. 467-9278.

150 Unfurn. Houses Rent

116 BOOKTER: 3 BEDROOMS, 3 Bath, large wood frame, across from St. Stanislaus, renovated, hook-ups, central air/heat, no appliances, \$600. 504-733-2416 after 5PM.

2 BED 1 BATH WD/HOOKUP CENTRAL H/A. \$500 DEP. \$500 Month. 467-7023.

2 BEDROOM AND A 3 BEDROOM, Stove/Ref. WD/Hookup. Central heat air, fenced yard, pet free. 467-9777.

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146 Rooms For Rent

COMFY, A/C ROOM, EXTRAS. \$300/monthly. 903 Spanish Acres Dr. BSL.

PRIVATE BR HOUSE PRIVILEGES NEAR Magic \$325 Month, 467-5628.

147 Apartments For Rent

1 & 2 BEDROOM, ALL ELECTRIC, CENTRAL heat/air, carpet, stove, refrigerator, water included. Starting at \$325/month, plus deposit. Lease required. 463-0043, 467-3935.

1 BEDROOM FURNISHED APT. CENTRAL A/H. Ask for A. 467-8401.

2BR, 1 1/2 BATH APT. \$650 MONTH. 248 E. 2nd st. Pass Christian. 324-0888.

The Waverly Apartments
NOW LEASING
Brand New!! 1, 2 & 3 BR's
(228) 463-2635**Best Holiday Special**
1/2 Off 1st Months Rent
2BR - \$242.50'
3BR - \$277.50'
*Reflects move in special
Open Saturday 9:00 - 3:00
Oak Villa Apartments
228-452-7005
Pass Christian, Ms.
Call 1-800-325-4126

NEW LISTING! Almost 1 1/2 acres. Beautifully landscaped property runs St. to St. The interior is to die for! Plush carpet, 2 kitchens, great room and much more. Must see! (125824)

REDUCED FOR QUICK SALE. Really nice 3 BR 2B brick home across from PCI Golf Course. Spacious living-dining. Has gas fireplace. Big den for kids or office. (123117)

NICE HOME FOR THE PRICE! Four bedroom/ two baths and two living areas. Several updates- flooring, security system, three year old roof. Call to see! (125801)

DESIRABLE SECOND STREET LOCATION with a \$4000 decorating allowance! Large lot with detached screened-in porch. Large living area with wood burning fireplace. (120810)

OLD POST OFFICE BUILDING- Main St. Bay St. Louis in middle of Historic old town's art gallery, gift shops, and courthouse. 1/2 block from beach! This 5400 sq. ft. building built in 1936 (Remodeled) in 1989, is now on National Historic Register has many possibilities! (112415)

GREAT LOCATION FOR DOCTOR OR MEDICAL OFFICE. Near hospital-street frontage on 3 sides. 22 feet on highway. Property current use not highest and best- much higher potential! (106756)

WATERFRONT CAMP IN PRISTINE CONDITION on deep water canal minutes to Jourdan River. Dock your boat & fish off pier in your back yard. (120111)

WATERFRONT CAMP TOTALLY RENOVATED, better then new! Deep water canal brings you to Jourdan River in minutes - dock your boat & fish off the oversized pier (123760)

BEAUTIFULLY UPDATED 3 BR VICTORIAN on corner lot in "the Pass". Large LR with Fireplace. Adjacent media room with built ins and wiring for electronics. Formal DR, breakfast room and "cook's kitchen". Wet bar and ice maker too. Unbelievable master Suite with Fireplace and a bath you just have to see. Call today for your appointment! (112166)

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467-0244 452-7444

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138 Trucks, Vans

1984 DODGE PICKUP: RUNS GOOD, \$1,775. 466-4954.

143 Real Estate Services

"All real estate advertised herein is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act, which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation, or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin, or intention to make any such preference, limitation, or discrimination. We will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. All persons are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised are available on an equal opportunity basis."

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Entertainment

'My South Coast Home'



Cover art from Bay St. Louis photographer Ken Murphy's new book, *My South Coast Home*.

BY BENNIE
SHALLBETTER
Staff Writer

Photographer Ken Murphy may have fallen into his line of work "accidentally," as he says, but his first coffee table book, *My South Coast Home: Photographs of the Mississippi Coast*, clearly displays his knowledge of the elements that transform a photograph into a work of art; just the right light at just the right moment.

Most of the subject matter for Murphy's photographs are simple things: An alligator rising out of glistening blue water, the shadow of a lizard on a banana leaf, a hawk sitting in an oak tree, a brown pelican nesting in the grass. The delight of these images is wondering how Murphy happened to be there at that exact perfect moment, to cap-

ture forever images we all consider unique to our area, moments rarely glimpsed by most of us and even more rarely captured, even in less than perfect amateur snapshots.

A perfect example of Murphy's perfect timing is displayed in the first photograph in the book. At first glance, the image is one of a full moon on the sound, pelicans atop distant pilings in the water, lovely enough on its own. But if you follow the stream of moonlight out into the water, you realize that just where the light disappears over the horizon, the tiny image of a sailboat makes its silent way across the path of light.

Another strong element in Murphy's photographs is his use of color. Lavender moonlit nights, cool green late after-

noons, spectacular orange and golden colored sunsets and calming blue and rose colored dawns, often seen, but rarely captured. Color and crystal clear detail unite all the images in the book, showing us glimpses of often seen places, that we realize we have never really seen.

Murphy also adds an element of humor to his images, seen most clearly in an image aptly named *Murphy's Law, Pot At The End...*, a perfectly formed rainbow over the sound, one end pointing precisely to just that, the port-a-potty that sits on the sand.

Whether your taste runs to beach scenes, country images, or the bustle of Gulfport or Biloxi, Murphy's book holds something magical for everyone. It can be found locally at Bookends and most book stores.

Carrot Top to ring in New Year at Beau

Carrot Top brings his hyper-wacky imagination back to Beau Rivage Monday, Dec. 31 at 11 p.m. for a special New Year's Eve performance in the 1,600-seat Beau Rivage Theatre.

From the fire-red curls that top his head to the props and gadgets that fill his trunks, Carrot Top is a true original, and his talents have made him one of today's hottest acts.

The comedian and 35 trunks filled to the brim with enough props to fill an 18-wheeler are

set to roll into the Beau Rivage Theatre for a New Year's Eve performance sure to please the party-going crowd.

Author, host of the Cartoon Network's top-rated program, "Carrot Top's A.M. Mayhem," and a favorite on "The Tonight Show," "Politically Incorrect" and others, the comedian still enjoys touring the most.

"I started about 10 years ago," Carrot Top said, "and I got a little bit of Carlin, Shandling and Richard Pryor in me, but

not too much. I just try to be silly."

Tickets for the performance are \$89.95 plus tax and include party favors and champagne split. Carrot Top will bring in the New Year with the official countdown.

To purchase tickets, contact the Beau Rivage Ticket Office at (888) 566-7469. Room packages starting at \$349 per person are available and can be arranged through Beau Rivage room reservations at (888) 595-2534.

Battle of New Orleans re-enacted Jan. 12-13

Jan. 12-13, at Chalmette National Battlepark, the re-staging of the culminating battle of the War of 1812 offers visitors opportunities to interact with costumed re-enactors.

"You will see what soldiers would have been doing to prepare for the battle," said Sue Davenport, the battlepark's director.

"They will be cleaning their weapons, preparing all of their equipment for battle, and gathering at fires to cook and talk of

the upcoming day's action."

The American victory in the historic battle, the last war between the U.S. and England, preserved America's claim to the Louisiana Purchase, prompted a wave of migration and settlement along the Mississippi River and made General Andrew Jackson a national hero.

The re-enactors will set up an American camp and a British camp and perform live fire demonstrations of small arms and artillery pieces.

Free tours of the encampments will be open to the public each day, and an evening "lantern tour" will be offered from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Jan. 12.

Visitors are asked to park at the nearby St. Bernard Parish Government Complex, where shuttle service will take them to the battlepark free of charge. For details, call 504-281-0510. Maps are available at: www.nps.gov/jela/ChalmetteBattlefield.htm.

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Pass Christian: Images of America

A peninsular community nourished by the enchanting waters of Mississippi's Gulf Coast, Pass Christian is a favorite tourist destination for thousands of visitors, a treasure trove of architectural gems, and a colorful infusion of American and European cultures.

In stately Antebellum homes on streets lined with majestic live oaks, Pass Christian's treasured heritage lingers like the balmy Gulf breezes.

Unlike towns stripped of character in the evolving modernization of America, this is a community where preservation is tantamount to progress.

With a six-mile frontage on the Gulf Coast, the town has essentially contained itself within its current city limits for more than 100 years.

"The Pass" became one of the early port towns to have schooner access to New Orleans, and many of this city's residents adopted the Pass as a second home in lifestyle that has prevailed for the past 150 years.

The vintage photographs in this collection portray a wide variety of local landmarks, notable citizens, grand homes, and memorable events in Pass Christian's celebrated history.

Coupled with informative captions, these snapshot glimpses into the past will evoke fond memories among those who have lived and worked in this coastal community while beckoning newcomers to explore one of the Magnolia State's greatest treasures.



PASS CHRISTIAN

tions in the area.
In *Images of America: Pass Christian*, Ellis offers an engaging portrait of the charming town that captured his heart.

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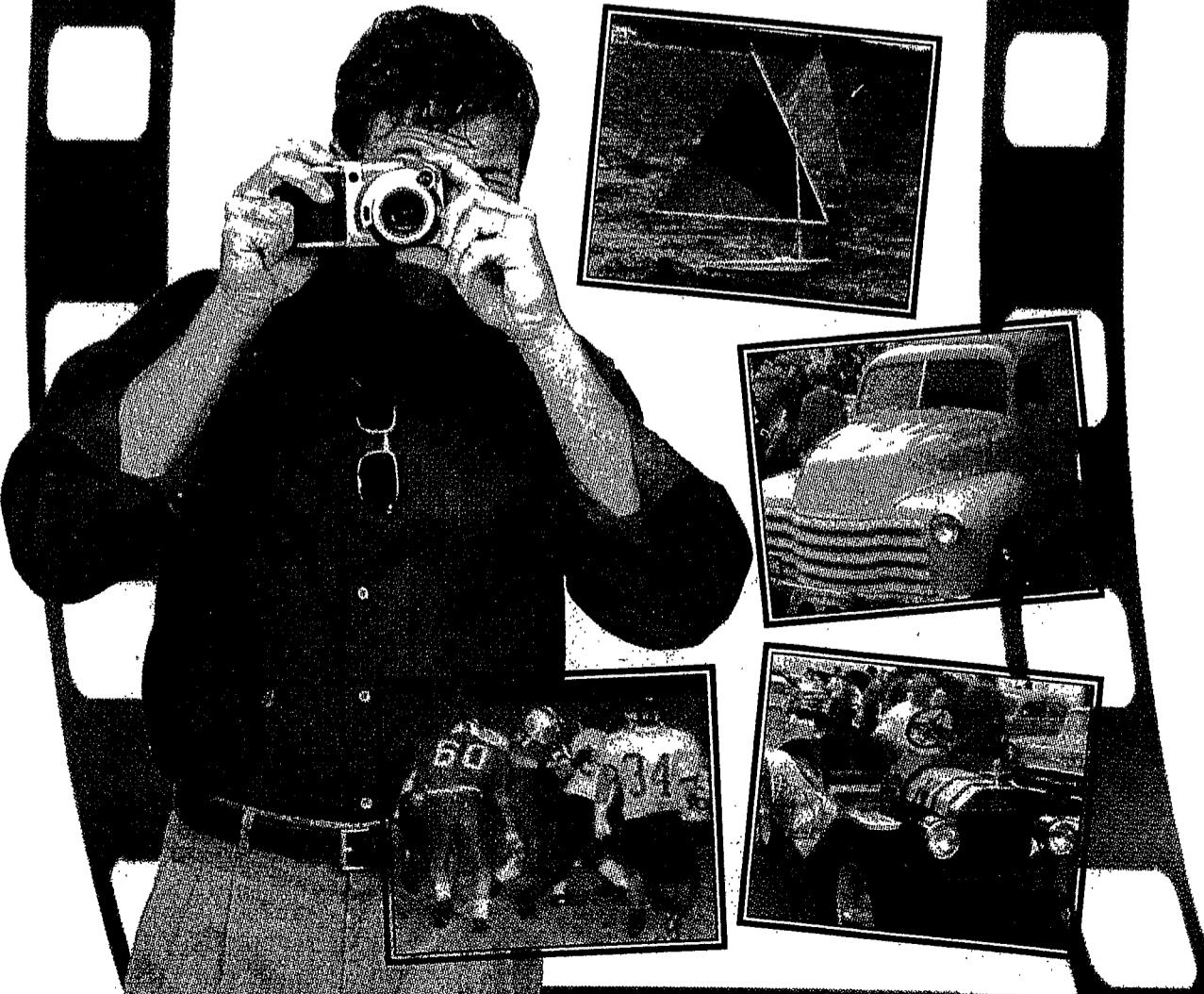
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